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**30P**

# THE TIMES



No. 64,821  
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993



Attitude to vows questioned

## Is Prince fit to rule, asks churchman

By RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales is threatening the survival of the monarchy, and may not be fit to become supreme governor of the Church of England, according to a senior Anglican churchman.

In a hard-hitting article in *The Times* today, the Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, says that Prince Charles apparently began to break his marriage vows soon after promising lifelong faithfulness to the Princess of Wales, although no evidence of such a breach has been produced.

Referring to the vows Prince Charles will make at his coronation, the Archdeacon says: "If his attitude to his vows of matrimony was so cavalier, has he the right to be trusted in this second solemnity?" He would feel duty bound to resign if he cheated on his wife because he would have betrayed the trust placed in him. "It may be that Prince Charles has gone too far for that same trust to be restored."

At least one senior bishop supported the Archdeacon, and others have privately expressed their reservations about the prince's fitness to succeed. The Right Rev Noel Deroy Jones, Bishop of Sodor and Man and former Chaplain of the Fleet, said the breaking of marriage vows was "an indication of a moral flaw which would be worrying". The affair had put a question mark over the leadership of the Prince of Wales.

Speaking on ITN yesterday, Lord St John of Fawley, a leading constitutional expert and former Tory Cabinet minister, said: "I am afraid heirs to the throne, throughout the

**■ Although the Archdeacon of York has emerged as the voice of the Church's moralist wing, his views on the royal succession attract only limited support**

ages, have had affairs. After all, if you are the Prince of Wales, everybody — every attractive woman — has an eye on the Prince of Wales and has had throughout the ages. Now one may pass moral judgments one way or the other if one wishes, but this has nothing to do with the constitution, nothing to do with the rights of succession."

Questioning the prince's fitness for a role occupied by every monarch since Henry VIII indicates a division of

view on this. It is almost 12 months since the separation was announced. Pertinent questions about the future of the monarchy and the nature of the coronation service should have been looked at by now. But it all hinges on the confusion in the Church over divorce.

Buckingham Palace has declined to make any formal comment on the Archdeacon's views, first aired on the BBC radio *Today* programme yesterday morning. But sources there indicated their view that the Archdeacon speaks from a personal standpoint. They emphasise that the Queen still wishes and expects to be succeeded by her eldest son.

The Palace has been thoroughly dismissive of newspaper reports this week suggesting first that the Queen wished the line of succession to pass directly to Prince William, and secondly that Dr Carey would feel unable to accept the Prince of Wales as supreme governor of the Church of England. Both reports, it emerged yesterday, were based on an informal meeting Dr Carey had last summer with newspaper executives at which, far from putting forward his own firm views, he merely aired opinions and possibilities.

Some senior clergy and church members privately support the Archdeacon of York on grounds of traditional morality, but are reluctant to speak out against a future King. Most would not go so far as to question Prince Charles's fitness, believing that his private behaviour does not necessarily reflect on his ability to be King. Any sustained challenge from the Church would almost certainly lead to renewed demands for disestablishment.

Dr Carey opposes disestablishment on the grounds that it would privatise religion and take spirituality of the national agenda. But he supports a revision of the coronation

### Church and state

This so-called "moral argument", whatever the nature of the Prince's behaviour in marriage, is mischievous, fallacious, aggressive in language and wholly regrettable.  
Leading article, page 17

opinion within the established Church: it fuels a debate already stoked by the Princess of Wales's announcement last Friday that she is withdrawing from most of her public duties, signalling that there is at present little hope of a reconciliation.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, does not oppose Prince Charles's succession to the throne, or as supreme governor of the Church of England and Defender of the Faith. Earlier this year, Dr Carey said he did not rule out a separated or divorced monarch as supreme governor of the Church, but said: "We expect our leaders at every level to embody Christian values."

He recently said divorce should be looked on "more positively" and could sometimes lead to better relationships.

One senior churchman said: "The Church does not have a

## France ready to throw in towel on Gatt

FROM CHARLES BREMNER  
IN PARIS AND  
GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

AFTER a year of fierce resistance, France yesterday signalled provisional acceptance of the Blair House pact on agriculture, the centrepiece of any final agreement on the new Gatt round.

Despite a last-minute press conference spoiler from Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, in which he insisted that there was neither a farm deal nor agreement on other

outstanding issues, optimism was rising last night that a final agreement was indeed achievable.

The conditions for agreement have not been reached on any of the three main headings of the negotiation on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, M Juppé said. They were the creation of a world trade body, the "audio-visual" and cultural chapter as well as farm trade. On the last, M Juppé said the Blair House agreement had been "profoundly modified" in

the direction sought by France.

Officials said US concessions in Brussels had answered most of France's objections. France said final acceptance would depend on her European partners adopting measures to protect French farmers from any losses that went beyond those already required under the common agricultural policy. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, spoke for the rest of the Community when he said there was no link between the

Gatt negotiations and the French demand for compensation but the subject will clearly dominate EC debate in the immediate future.

Further hints of an eventual French acceptance came from Gérard Longuet, the French Trade Minister, when he said last night that in the Brussels negotiations so far "France has not obtained 100 per cent satisfaction. We have got about half and we are trying to have a little bit more, but in such a negotiation we cannot have everything."

There remain seven days for the conclusion of Gatt's "Uruguay Round" negotiations that have lasted seven and a half years.

Sir Leon Brittan, the EC chief trade negotiator, said in Geneva that he "remained totally convinced that the Uruguay Round can and must be completed in the time allocated to it". Mr Hurd said that a deal was "certainly possible and, on balance, probable".

Gatt cliffhanger, page 10  
Simon Jenkins, page 16

## Lloyd's offers £900m to names

By SARAH BAGNALL  
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LOYD'S of London yesterday offered £900 million to more than 21,000 names to compensate them for insurance losses of £5.5 billion. The offer is aimed at ending moves by names, the insurance market's investors, to recover their losses through the courts.

The bulk of names are being offered £100,000 each but 1,500 are not being offered anything, while about 40 names are being offered up to £1 million each. Lloyd's is limiting its offer to any name at two-thirds of their losses.

Names have until the end of January to accept the offer, which requires them to give up the rights to legal action. However, several representatives of names have rejected the offer, declaring it inadequate. A failure to entice names to accept the offer will result in a string of court cases which could last for more than a decade.

The offer has been weighted to favour the market's hardest hit names and those due in court first. As a result, names on the Gooda Walker Actio Group, where a Serious Fraud Squad investigation is still continuing, and on Feltrin syndicates stand to gain the lion's share.

Package details, page 23  
Pennyington, page 25  
Take the moony, page 27

## London hospitals face Bottomley axe at Christmas

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

THE closure or merger of London hospitals, including Hammersmith and St Bartholomew's, is to be announced by Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, before Christmas to mark the radical reshaping of the capital's health service.

Mrs Bottomley is also likely to announce after Christmas that the Royal Marsden cancer hospital is unlikely to survive on its site in west London. Hammersmith hospital staff and services are expected to move to the Charing Cross hospital, and St Bartholomew's will close, leading to the loss of more than 1,000 beds.

However, ministers are understood to have intervened to save University College hospital, whose closure was threatened by the local health authority on the grounds that patients could be treated more cheaply elsewhere.

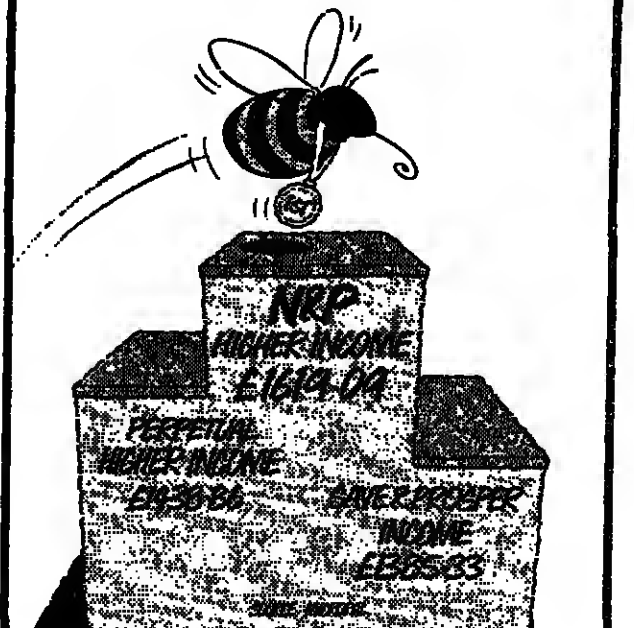
Mrs Bottomley will set out her vision for the future of London's health care following a year of discussion on the Tomlinson report which recommended extensive pruning of the capital's hospitals, with the loss of at least 2,500 beds. Mrs Bottomley has decided it is better to make a "big bang" announcement to minimise uncertainty and give remaining hospitals the best chance of succeeding. The Royal Marsden announcement is likely to be made in January with notice of further changes.

The most contentious decision is that affecting the Marsden. Ministers believe



Bottomley: set for "big bang" announcement

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## Snarling bears of the past slope off for a snooze

News reaches this column that the Tasmanian parliament has decided to stop printing a Hansard-style account of its proceedings, due to lack of public interest, and cost. In future a simple transcript will be typed. Tasmanian enquiries will be answered with photocopies.

I wonder whether we should consider a similar system for Britain, now that Prime Minister's questions are so dull. Where are the twice-weekly screaming matches with which Neil Kinnock and Margaret Thatcher used to entertain us? Where are the howls of Opposition outrage, the shrieks of Tory fury, the hoots, hisses, cackles and canned laughter?

Backbenchers have taken their cue from snoozing frontbenchers and can hardly be bothered to bark these days. We used to ask why MPs should behave like hooligans and treat our great Mother of Parliaments like a bear-garden. But now the hooligans have nodded off. The bears have departed. The Press opts out away.

All we can offer is booby-prizes. On the Tory back benches there were two nominations yesterday: Peter Luff (C. Worcester) and Michael Fabricant (C. Mid Staffs). In Mr Fabricant's defence it may be said that he does realise the whole thing's absurd, but plays along. To him in a moment.

Mr Luff takes the prize. Yesterday, enquiring (ostensibly) about outside investment in Britain, he asked whether it "does not prove that the Conservative Party has the right policies and the party opposite has the wrong ones?" Answer that, eh, Mr Major? What a teaser! The PM looked stunned.

I knew Mr Luff when he was a youth. He was quite a lively lad. What happens to these people? They get elected, I suppose. Would I have become like this if I'd stayed

an MP? Was I (horrors) like this when I was an MP? Is it worth the knighthood, Peter? Is it worth a parliamentary under-secretaryship?

Mr Fabricant is at least enjoying himself, but we trust he secured his doctor's permission to cite the medical evidence he offered the Health Secretary. Step forward Dr Barry Jones, of Staffordshire. Dr Jones entered the national arena with his view (if Mr Fabricant summarised it fairly) that GP fund-holding is the way forward. It has made doctors more sensitive to the needs of those they serve, the MP explained. Dr Jones — "my own GP", said Mr Fabricant — is now a fundholder and has become "far more responsive" to patients, "including myself".

Dr Jones, here is a message from a grateful nation: thank you for being more responsive to your MP. None of us (except the Tory whips) could bear to think of Mr Fabricant suffering brutality in the surgery or insensitivity on the couch.

The Prime Minister did not arrive in time to hear the good news, but sat down cheerfully, clapping and pressing his hands together with anticipatory gusto. One begins to see why. For the first year or so of the twice-weekly Smith/Major exchanges, honours were equally divided. John Smith was dreadful and John Major was dreadful. Neither won. Most spats ended in a wretched draw.

But now Mr Major is drawing ahead. He is still dreadful, but a bit rougher and markedly more confident. Mr Smith's game simply fails to develop. In a fight between one-armed mud-wrestlers, a slightly sharper elbow can give the edge.

Study this game if you must, but it's very much for addicts. And the day is coming when you will have to ask for photocopies.

## Solicitors' bid fails

Continued from page 1  
compromise solution. It will argue that all solicitors should have the same rights.

In their decision, expected on Friday, the judges are likely to indicate that they do not think CPS lawyers are ready to take on weightier cases. CPS solicitors routinely appear in magistrates' courts.

The announcement will also be a particular blow for Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, who has campaigned on behalf of lawyers in the CPS. The Law Society refused to comment but said it was "awaiting the judges' decision".

The judges' finding comes after a complex process under machinery set up under the Courts and Legal Services Act that has been described by Lord Donaldson, the former Master of the Rolls, as a "stately quadrille".

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## Back to do business, Gorbachev enjoys a warm reunion



Mikhail Gorbachev, the last Soviet president, and his wife Raisa are greeted by Baroness Thatcher for lunch at her Belgrave home yesterday. Neither former leader's office wanted to disclose what was on the menu or what was discussed but the Gorbachevs emerged after an hour-

and-a-half with an aide clutching four brightly wrapped Christmas presents (Jonathan Prynn writes).

Later Mr Gorbachev, who is on a six-day tour of Britain, shared a platter with Lord Healey and Howe and Sir David Steel before an audience of 2,000 at Central Hall

Westminster. They answered questions on international issues.

Mr Gorbachev will lunch with John Major at Downing Street today. He will be presented with the Sir Winston Churchill Award by the wartime leader's daughter Lady Mary Soames and his grandson

Winston Churchill MP at Guildhall in the City this evening.

On Thursday, Mr Gorbachev will tour Oxford University. His Friday itinerary takes him to Bristol where he will receive an honorary degree.

Leading article, page 17

## Major wants league tables to expose 'four-day week' schools

By BEN PRESTON  
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS working the equivalent of a four-day week will be exposed by next year's education league tables under a change proposed yesterday by John Major.

The Prime Minister said that state and independent schools were likely to be required to disclose in the performance tables the number of hours they taught pupils each week, in addition to listing examination and truancy statistics.

His announcement at a citizens' charter conference came as Professor Stewart Sutherland, the Chief Inspector of Schools, published an uncompromising annual report showing that more than 1,000 secondaries failed to teach pupils for the required 24 hours each week. Some

### Some pupils miss the equivalent of one year's teaching in five because of short hours, but does it mean their education is poorer?

pupils were missing out on a day's teaching each week, or a whole year in five, because of variations in the teaching day between schools.

The Prime Minister's move drew immediate criticism from the Labour Party and leading independent schools, who argued that teaching time was virtually meaningless as a measure of education quality. Mr Major said during Commons' question time that action was necessary to ensure pupils were not "short-changed" by inadequate provision, particularly in the inner cities.

Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokeswoman, said:

"Spending and the size of classes are of far more importance and interest to parents."

Yesterday's row was sparked by the chief inspector's wide-ranging and forthright report, which warned that "downright poor" standards of teaching stubbornly persisted in thousands of schools. It was unacceptable that one in three primary pupils and almost one in six students in post-16 education were taught inadequately, with the proportion frequently higher in deprived urban areas, he said.

Professor Sutherland said the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) would investigate the impact of differences of up to 20 per cent in the length of the teaching week.

Separate enquiries will examine the reasons for bad teaching and the drift away from sciences and mathematics at A level.

The report concluded that although much in the education system was of satisfactory or high quality, there were many underlying problems. These ranged from bullying to the lack of specialist primary teaching and equipment shortages.

However, in a break from previous reports, Professor Sutherland emphasised the need for efficient use of existing resources in schools and appeared to downplay the problems resulting from buildings needing repairs. He said the case for extra education funding could not be made convincingly until

Ofsted finished an investigation into value for money of existing spending in schools.

There was an urgent need to improve school management, he said, because some head teachers and governors were struggling to control substantial annual budgets of up to £2 million. Too many schools were hoarding cash reserves under local management schemes, including one authority where 700 schools had chosen to leave £28 million unspent.

The Education Bill suffered a mauling from peers on all sides yesterday as it was debated in Parliament for the first time. The hostile reaction of some Tory peers at the second reading stage will particularly worry Government whips, who fear backbench rebellions when the bill is scrutinised in committee in the new year.

## Hospitals face axe at Christmas

Continued from page 1  
by St Bartholomew's and the Royal London hospitals is expected to receive ministerial approval after its consultation period ends this week. The new trust will seek to concentrate services at the Royal London site in Whitechapel with the closure of St Bartholomew's Smithfield site. A minor injuries clinic could be retained at Smithfield.

The proposed closure of the accident and emergency department at Guy's hospital is also likely to be approved, opening the way for its development as a specialist hospital. St Thomas's which will retain its accident department, would become the main teaching hospital.

However, a plan by Camden and Islington health authority to withdraw non-urgent patients from University College hospital is unlikely to go ahead after ministers asked officials of the London Implementation Group, set up to oversee the health service changes in the capital, to intervene.

The authority, which is due to lose £20 million over five years, is meeting on 11 January to decide. A spokeswoman admitted opposition had been "overwhelming".

## State pension 'will become worthless'

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH Clarke was at odds with his deputy, Michael Portillo, over the future of the state pension last night, as the latest opinion poll suggested that the Budget had failed to improve Conservative fortunes.

The Chancellor's attempt to take the welfare controversy off the agenda failed as the right-wing Treasury Chief Secretary suggested that the old-age pension would be worth only a "negatory" or trifling amount in the next century.

His claim, made on BBC 2's Westminster Live programme, suggested continuing sharp divisions at the top of Tory party over the future of the welfare state.

They appeared to be in direct conflict with Mr Clarke's statement last week that the state pension would never become a "vestigial remnant". The Chancellor also opposed the concept of people being allowed to opt out of the basic pension, which Mr Portillo and others on the right have backed.

The differences between the two are mainly ones of emphasis because Mr Portillo was referring mainly to the pension's future value. His remarks will, however, antagonise the Tory left.



Portillo: at odds with Chancellor over welfare

## Churchman challenges Prince

Continued from page 1  
oath because the religious make-up of the country has changed.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said earlier this year that the British public was traditionally tolerant about the behaviour of the royal family but that all tolerance "has its limits".

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Coggan, said: "The Prince has not broken his marriage vows because he is not a divorced man." But regarding the succession were he to divorce, Lord Coggan said: "That is another matter. I hope there will be a reconciliation — don't we all. Leave them alone and let them work it out."

A Church of England spokesman said: "The Archbishop of York is entitled to express his own opinions on this matter. He does not, however, speak for the Church. It is not the Church's practice to comment on hypothetical personal or pastoral matters relating to individuals."

Sir Ivan Lawrence, Tory chairman of the Commons home affairs select committee, said the Archbishop had delivered a rather harsh judgment.

## Howard turns down plea for more police

The number of police officers in England and Wales is to be frozen for the second year running because of public spending cuts. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, has rejected requests for an extra 2,525 officers. The announcement came days after he approved a plan for members of Neighbourhood Watch schemes to patrol the streets.

The Home Office has told police authorities that the requests had been turned down because there was a "pressing need for continuing restraint in all areas of public expenditure". The Police Federation said it was time that the Tories delivered on their manifesto promise to provide an extra 1,000 officers. "We are extremely disappointed that at a time when crime is rising and law and order is supposed to be at the top of the political agenda, manpower has been frozen."

## RAF base to close

An RAF training base at Chivenor, Devon, is to close next October to save more than £127 million over the next ten years, Jeremy Hanley, armed forces minister, said. The decision to close Chivenor, which employs 119 civilians and 779 servicemen, followed a review of Britain's seven RAF flying stations.

## Students stage sit-in

Hundreds of students staged a sit-in at the London School of Economics in protest at cuts to grants and changes in tuition fees. The protesters moved into the old union building after an emergency general meeting, called to discuss the Chancellor's planned 10 per cent cut in grants. A list of demands was handed to the school's director.

## Pregnancy payout

A woman dismissed from the RAF for becoming pregnant has been awarded compensation of more than £62,000. Jacqueline Peel, 35, from Leasingham, Lincolnshire, was dismissed by a senior RAF officer as she lay pregnant to a hospital bed in 1987. She is likely to receive an extra sum of about £20,000 in respect of lost pension rights.

## Prison governor errs

Max Morrison, the governor of Albany prison on the Isle of Wight, who gave an inmate day leave to attend drug counselling, admitted yesterday that he made a mistake. Richard Tyres, 23, serving six years for taking five hostages at gunpoint, fled last Friday while he and his guard had a pub meal in Bournemouth. He has not been seen since.

## £441,000 for Ming jar

A large Ming dynasty "fish jar" painted with orange carp made £441,500 in a sale of Chinese ceramics at Sotheby's in London. The price paid by an unknown Far Eastern buyer was almost double the £242,000 the jar made when it was last sold in 1989. Despite its name, the 16th-century jar would have been used for wine.

مكتبة من الأصل



# Protesters lose battle to save ancient tree

The removal of a 250-year-old tree and attendant protesters is only one small step towards an M11 extension in east London

By KATE ALDERSON

THE might of 300 police officers and 150 security men yesterday overcame the protests of about 200 environmentalists trying to protect an ancient chestnut tree in which some of them had set up home.

After a bloody eight-hour battle, in turns violent and farcical, they tore down an ancient chestnut tree, which was blocking a road development in east London.

The combatants struggled and slithered ankle-deep in mud on George's Green, Wanstead, east London. The protesters were defending a 250-year-old tree which blocked the route of a £200 million road link from the M11 to Hackney Wick. Twenty arrests were made and dozens injured before the way was cleared for the contractors' bulldozers and diggers.

During the day the roads surrounding the green were blocked by protesters who threw themselves in the path of a crane and hydraulic lift. Sheriff's officers tried to saw down the branches of trees to which the demonstrators had chained themselves and were tied with them high in the air on a hydraulic platform. Someone emptied a bucket of excrement over a police superintendent and others urinated on the cordon surrounding the base of the tree.

The drama began at dawn when the sheriff's men arrived. They were determined to tear down the tree-house in the ancient chestnut tree as the protesters were to save it.

The defenders comprised a minority of local residents and a majority of travelling environmentalists who had established a camp in the tree in defiance of the sheriff's order. A dozen of those who had chained themselves with bicycle locks and handcuffs high in the branches looked down on their supporters who sporadically attempted to break the four-deep cordon of police around the base.

While the mood below the tree turned ugly, among the branches it was beginning to resemble a farce. The sheriff's officers, wearing white hard hats bearing the blue letters SHERIFF, were hoisted up to the tree-camp in a hydraulic lift. One officer, on discovering that the protesters were chained to the tree, cupped his hands and shouted down to his colleagues for a saw.

He then began to remove the branches on which the protesters were hanging and shouted for clippers with which he hacked off the bicycle chains. A number of protesters, some of whom looked to be in danger of falling out of the tree, dangled from the branches until the bitter end. Some were pulled struggling on to the hydraulic platform, others surrendered peacefully.

At the base of the tree the police, security men and protesters jostled violently. A number of protesters suffering bloody noses and ears and accused the police of heavy-handedness and violence. Three private security



A cordon of police and security officers surrounds the base of the tree, occupied by protesters who chained themselves to its branches

men were hurt and one is thought to have a serious head injury. He was struck when a hydraulic platform ran back and hit him. A woman protester was also hurt after falling under the vehicle. At the start of the

confrontation, Chief Superintendent Stuart Giblin said: "Our job is to assist the sheriff's officers. The protesters are determined to stay put. It's going to be a long day." The tree was finally bulldozed at 1.30pm to the sound

of protesters banging drums, blowing whistles and crying. Matt Luis from Leytonstone, east London, the first person to be removed from the tree, said: "No one wants this road. One thousand houses are going to be destroyed and this

is common land, our garden." As the bulldozer finally reduced the chestnut tree to a stump protesters chained themselves to three other trees. A police officer sighed: "Oh God, here we go again." Within an hour all the demon-

strators had been removed but vowed to continue their struggle. "We made our point and they haven't won yet," said one. "We are still occupying buildings along the whole length of the new road. Today was just the start."

## Away with the manger, and all mention of Christmas

By ANDREW PIERCE

CHRISTMAS does not officially exist in Birmingham. Labour councillors have removed any mention of it from the civic decorations for fear of upsetting the city's ethnic communities.

Santa Claus, Rudolph, the three wise men, angels, nativity scenes and the C-word itself are out. Instead, Birmingham's display has been designed on a multi-religious theme: earth, water, air and fire.

Midlands Tory MPs plan to table motions in the Commons deploring the decision. They have branded the Labour councillors lunatics and anti-British.

Bryan Bird, the deputy leader of the council, said they did not want the city's ethnic groups, such as Hindus, Sikhs, Jews, Chinese and Vietnamese, to feel left out. "The lights can be used, to cover other religions," he said.

Warren Hawksley, Tory MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge, said: "The Labour councillors are showing themselves up for what they are, lunatics. People are not going to be told if they should or should not celebrate Christmas."

"We have got to get rid of the industry of changing names just to be politically correct. It is time to call things exactly what they are. The council is being stupid and anti-British."

Patrick Cormack, Tory MP for Staffordshire South, who is a church warden, said the decision "takes my breath away". He added: "I have never heard such pagan balderdash in all my life. Christmas is a Christian festival or it is nothing at all, and we have a particularly British way of celebrating it."

The last word went to Dame Jill Knight, Tory MP for Birmingham's Edgbaston district. She said: "The city council should recognise that it only operates on money donated to it by its citizens, who have every right to recognise their traditional festivities. If we want to live in India, we wouldn't expect Father Christmas to come down the chimney."

## The Church's history is interwoven with Crown scandals

### Sanctity of royal marriage 'irrelevant to church role'

By DANIEL JOHNSON

THE Archbishop of York's argument yesterday, that the Prince of Wales may be unsuitable to become Supreme Governor of the Church of England because he might never have intended to keep his marriage vows, is on dubious historical grounds if the Ven George Austin, who supposes that the Anglican church has made the monarch's role as its titular head dependent on the sanctity of royal marriages.

Edward VIII's abdication in 1936 was precipitated by a sermon by the Bishop of Bradford, who warned the King to show more awareness of his Christian duty — a reference to his affair with the American divorcee Wallis Simpson. However, there is a world of difference between Edward VIII's situation and that of the Prince.

At least since 1688, Parliament has insisted on sanctioning royal marriages, since they are affairs of state. By seeking to treat his marriage as private, Edward VIII was attempting to overturn the status of the monarchy.

The Prince has broken with no precedent. No objection



Prince of Wales has broken no precedent

was raised to the Princess of Wales at the time of their marriage; and whether he has been faithful to her, is, in terms of *raison d'etat*, irrelevant.

The Church of England has its origins in one of the most celebrated divorces, that of Henry VIII, who rejoiced in the title awarded him by the Pope of "Defender of the Faith", and Catherine of Aragon. Henry demanded a divorce in 1527, claiming that the marriage had been incestuous as Catherine had previously been married to Henry's brother, but was refused a dispensation by the Pope. In

1531, Henry declared himself "sole protector and supreme head of the English church and clergy"; the following year he ordered bishops to obey him alone, and not Rome; and in 1533 he married Anne Boleyn, by then pregnant.

Four months later, shortly after he had been consecrated as Archbishop of Canterbury by the Pope, Thomas Cranmer supported the King by annulling the marriage to Catherine. In 1534, the Act of Supremacy, much modified since but still valid in essentials, gave the English Reformation the full force of statute. Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer* was adopted as the prescribed liturgy by Parliament in 1549, and a second, unambiguously Protestant, prayer book issued in 1552.

The theory of Church and State in England derives essentially from the Elizabethan era; above all from Richard Hooker, whose *Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (1594) helped to crystallise the fluid arrangements bequeathed by Henry VIII.

Apart from brief periods under Mary Tudor and James II when a return to Roman Catholicism seemed possible, or under the Commonwealth and Protectorate when England was a republic, the monarch's role as head of the Anglican Church has remained secure. It has survived numerous royal scandals: the homosexuality of James I and William III; quasi-official mistresses for Charles II and several of the Hanoverians; and the philandering of Edward VII.

The most serious crisis was, perhaps, George IV's separation from Princess Caroline of Brunswick. George, then Prince of Wales, secretly married Mrs Fitzherbert and, after his accession to the throne in 1820, attempted to have Caroline deprived of the title of queen. He failed, but excluded her from his coronation.

Monarchy threatened, page 1  
Leading article, page 17  
Media, page 21

### Turbulent priest who wages war on liberals

By RUTH GLEDHILL  
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FEW in the Church of England have gained the notoriety of the Ven George Austin, Archbishop of York, the archetype of the turbulent priest.

He was once famously compared by his Archbishop, Dr John Habgood, to "the Fat Boy in the *Pickwick Papers* who sneaks up on a timid old woman saying, 'I want to make your flesh creep'."

This did him less than justice. While Mr Austin, 62, is undoubtedly corpulent, he represents a constituency in the middle-to-high ground of the Church that his superiors would be unwise to ignore.

Although he has the ability to hold high office, promotion became unlikely as soon as he developed his unerring talent for speaking his mind in a manner that guaranteed him media attention. Mr Austin, a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*, has long been a critic of liberal tendencies in the Church. He is an opponent of women priests and a determined advocate of high moral standards.

He is a leading Anglo-Catholic and was a friend of the late Dr Gareth Bennett, also a critic of liberalism in the Church. Mr Austin was thought to be one of those who, according to Dr Bennett, were being denied promotion because of their traditionalist views, and it is likely that his move to York in 1988 was an attempt by Dr Habgood to address this issue.

He sees his role in the Church as often solitary and almost prophetic, but remains determined to speak out against what he sees as a swing to liberalism that could end in feminist liturgies, single-sex marriages and a reinterpretation of the Creed.

George Austin, page 16

## Addicted wife hired assassin

By A STAFF REPORTER

A FORMER top council officer was convicted yesterday of hiring an assassin to kill her husband after he threatened to expose her double life as a gambler and prostitute.

The Central Criminal Court was told that Florence Samarasingha, 41, and her husband Nimal had an affluent lifestyle. She was chief housing benefits officer at Croydon Borough Council,

south London. But Mr Samarasingha discovered that his wife had become addicted to one-armed bandits and had turned to prostitution to help fund the addiction that cost her up to £1,000 a week.

He sought a divorce and custody of their teenage daughter. The day before he was due to disclose his wife's activities, he was stabbed outside their home in Wallington,

south London, by a man who has never been caught.

The court was told that Samarasingha hired the assassin to protect her reputation and to enable her to cash in life insurance policies that she would clear her £34,000 debts. She was convicted of murder and soliciting murder and faces a mandatory life sentence, but Mr Justice Phillips adjourned sentencing until December 17.

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## Rival camps gather for battle royal

By BILL FROST

BATTLE lines between sympathisers of the Prince and Princess of Wales have been drawn by newspaper editors, peers, pop stars and politicians.

There seems to be diminishing neutral ground in the national debate over the marriage breakdown. The Princess's adroit handling of the media has won her sympathy in Fleet Street and beyond while the Prince and his aides have been slower to mobilise support for their case.

The *Daily Mail*, though allowing columnists to attack the Princess on occasions, has shown unwavering devotion to her cause. The newspaper supports

her without criticising the Prince; well, not too often anyway.

The *Mail on Sunday* has been more ambivalent. Prominence was given to a poll showing the Prince's dwindling popularity. A leading article warned him to ignore the poll at the monarchy's peril.

The *Daily Express* has consistently supported the Prince. So too have *The Daily Telegraph* and its Sunday stablemate. One particularly partisan article in *The Daily Telegraph* was rumoured to have concerned even the Prince's staunch supporters at the Palace, said to have thought it verged on hagiography.

Despite publishing those notorious pictures of the Princess at a London gym,

the *Daily Mirror* has consistently supported her. So too have *Today* and, with occasional lapses, *The Sun*.

Among the Great and the Good, the Prince's supporters appear outgunned. The Princess has gathered a formidable team around her. Sir Gordon Reece, once a key Thatcher aide, is said to have worked tirelessly on the Princess's behalf to achieve a reconciliation between the couple. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare is said to be a key adviser on image presentation. Lord Palumbo lines up with the Princess too. Cynics erroneously claim this has something to do with a difference of opinion with the Prince over modern architecture.



# MPs: THE CHOICE.

## THE RESTRICTIVE RSAR-KSSC OPTION:

- \* IGNORES THE WISHES OF 30 MILLION VOTERS (1)
- \* HITS THE POCKETS OF 140,000 SHOPWORKERS (2)
- \* IS INCONSISTENT AND UNWORKABLE (3)
- \* LEAVES THE ISSUE UNRESOLVED (4)

TICK HERE

## THE SHRC SIX-HOURS COMPROMISE:

- \* GIVES THE PUBLIC WHAT THEY WANT (5)
- \* GIVES THE WORKERS WHAT THEY WANT (6)
- \* HELPS SMALL SHOPS (7)
- \* PROTECTS SHOP-WORKERS (8)

TICK HERE

(1) More than 10 major opinion polls show that two-thirds of voters want to be able to shop on Sundays.

(2) It is estimated that 140,000 shopworkers will lose out on well-paid Sunday work.

(3) Under the RSAR/KSSC option some goods can be sold in some shops and not in others; it's unfair because it creates an unequal playing field for business.

(4) Because every poll shows that super-

markets are the most popular places for Sunday shopping, this option will not meet consumers' needs and will fail to give MPs what they want - a permanent solution.

(5) See (1) above.

(6) The shopworkers' union USDAW has written to MPs in support of the SHRC option.

(7) Small shops will be able to open all day; larger ones for only six hours.

This more than protects the interests of small shopkeepers.

(8) The Government has conceded the need for statutory protection for shopworkers. This makes Sunday working completely voluntary.

Small shops open all day...larger shops open six hours.

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هكذا من الأصل



# WPC wins apology and promotion after harassment

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

PAUL Condon, the Metropolitan Police commissioner, apologised to a woman officer yesterday after admitting that she had suffered sexual and racial harassment at work.

The apology came after Constable Sarah Locker, 32, was awarded more than £32,000 in an out-of-court settlement of her case alleging discrimination. She will also be promoted to detective constable.

As part of the deal, a senior commander at the Metropolitan police read out a statement including Mr Condon's apology, and shook hands with WPC Locker. A male detective constable involved in the case will also apologise to her in writing and in person.

WPC Locker said: "I have achieved what seemed to be the impossible. I just hope that other women have the courage to step out and fight for what they know and believe is right."

The award is the highest made public in an out-of-court settlement for injury of feelings. It came after a two-year campaign by WPC Locker, who is of Turkish origin. She was initially offered £250 by the Metropolitan police, according to her solicitor.

Scotland Yard is to set up a woman's support network to help those who face discrimination. All ranks are to receive training within the next year in equal opportunities and race awareness.

WPC Locker, from Essex, who is married to a Metropolitan police officer, claimed that she was repeatedly passed over for promotion to the Criminal Investigation Department because of her sex and colour. When she complained she was put through gruelling interviews by officers, despite her being preg-

**The Metropolitan police will be trained in racial and sexual awareness after the case of an officer victimised by colleagues**

nant. She said that pornographic magazines and a racially abusive note had been left on her desk at Leman Street police station in east London and that signs saying "Mad Turks" had been displayed. A spoof application for specialist training contained racial and sexual abuse including reference to "nice greasy Mediterranean boys".

Yesterday she sat next to Commander John Grieve at a press conference in Scotland Yard at which the settlement of her case was announced. Commander Grieve said: "I am authorised by the commissioner to express his deepest regret about the stress which has been caused to Sarah Locker by these events."

He said that WPC Locker had complained of being handed a document which amounted to racial and sexual harassment. "The force of this complaint is recognised and, on behalf of the commissioner, I apologise." At the end of the

press conference and he shook hands with WPC Locker and kissed her on the cheek.

WPC Locker, whose claim was backed by the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Commission for Racial Equality, said: "This is a tremendous day for me. The commissioner has now made offers which I believe amount to sufficient recompense for my unpleasant experiences."

She had claimed that she was often used as an interpreter because of her Turkish origins, and was then criticised for spending too long away from her duties.

Commander Grieve said: "She complained that her work on those operations was undervalued. The commissioner recognises that her career was mismanaged, and he apologises for that."

He added that Mr Condon had always denied that WPC Locker's non-selection to the CID had anything to do with her race or sex.

Jane Deighton, solicitor for WPC Locker, said that Mr Condon should be ashamed of the way he had conducted proceedings. "At every stage the commissioner has thrown obstacles in our way. It is only as a result of her tenacity and courage that, at each obstacle, she has carried on."

Lawyers for WPC Locker complained that they were unable to process her case because of a restriction that officers could be interviewed only in the presence of a senior officer. Last week, the Appeal Court ruled that this obstacle could be a contempt of court and accepted a police undertaking that the restriction would be withdrawn.



Locker: promoted as part of settlement deal

## Fugitive father may settle in Cyprus

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN HURGHADA

THE father who fled with his son to Egypt to escape court custody arrangements said yesterday that they may go to northern Cyprus.

Peter Malkin, who abducted his son Oliver, 12, from France where he lived with his mother and stepfather, was speaking in Cairo as sequestrators served a notice on his country club in Kent.

Mr Malkin, 54, claimed yesterday that the Egyptians were willing to extend his three-month tourist visa. "I am now in the process of ensuring my son gets books from the British international school in Cairo and a tutor to keep up his education," he said.

In case the Egyptians change their minds, Mr Malkin was making enquiries yesterday about moving to the self-styled Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, where he would live alongside Asil Nadir and other fugitives from the British legal system.

Local sources said that Mr Malkin had also been enquiring about hiring a boat capable of travelling long distances.

Legal advisers have told him that his son will be in a stronger position to declare which parent he wants to live with when he reaches his

fourteenth birthday in 15 months.

"I have also been told that if we return to England after that, I may have to go to prison," Mr Malkin said. "I am quite prepared for jail. It will have been worth it to have the opportunity to bring up my son in the meantime."

Mr Malkin is convinced publicity will support his argument that the boy should not be returned to France or put into care in England, the alternatives he faces if they return to Britain. "The government has been acting to keep my son off British television screens because they know he will say his choice is to be with me," the businessman claimed. "Anyone who comes here can see we are happy to be in each other's company."

Officials from Clark Whitehill, the chartered accountant appointed by the High Court family division, served a writ on Bridge Manor Country Club, near Canterbury, and its assets.

Mark Riley, of Clark Whitehill, read a statement saying: "I not only have the power to seize his assets but also to sell them. It is not my intention to seek closure of the club; my role is to bring his assets to the control of the court."

## Boys put on remand in death threat case

By PAUL WILKINSON

TWO boys who allegedly threatened to kill a six-year-old boy four days after the James Bulger murder verdicts have been remanded into the care of a local authority for a week.

The two, aged 10 and 11, made a brief appearance in Newcastle upon Tyne youth court yesterday. The incident allegedly took place on a railway line. The two are accused of tying up the victim, stabbing him in the arm with a penknife and trying to get him to electrocute himself on the track of the Newcastle upon Tyne rail system at Shieldfield on November 28. They are also accused of indecently assaulting the boy and his two brothers, aged seven and ten, and causing actual bodily harm to the boy and one brother.

Neither accused boy spoke during the hearing, but the older boy was visibly distressed. His companion remained expressionless.

Colin Darroch, for the prosecution, said that he would not proceed with the allegations for four weeks. The panel chairman made an order for binding identification.



Gary and Sharon Windsor hope that Michael, their 11-week-old baby, will be home in time for Christmas

## Sick baby's parents get vital phone link

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A COUPLE who could not take their sick baby home until they had a telephone at the remote family home in Llanidloes, Wales, were celebrating its installation last night. British Telecom waived its usual deposit and installed the telephone for £36.78 as beneficiaries raced to pay for it after extensive media coverage.

The baby's consultant at Singleton Hospital, Swansea, Dr Dewi Evans,

criticised Powys social services for failing to provide a telephone at the remote family home in Llanidloes.

Michael Windsor's parents Gary, 36, and Sharon, 20, both unemployed, are being paid £167 a week by the DSS so that they can travel 93 miles to visit him.

After he was born prematurely, Michael needed life-supporting intensive care to survive. Now 11 weeks old, he is almost ready to leave the specialist

hospital. But Dr Evans was unwilling to allow him to go home without a telephone as he will continue to need oxygen and has a high risk of cot death.

Powys social services, which referred a community health service query about a telephone to a charity, yesterday said that it had received "too direct approach from the family but in the light of additional information we have now contacted them".



**"I can't believe the weakness of this government in letting a British export industry be destroyed like this."**

### THE FACTS

Dumping: For the third time in five years the Norwegians are flooding the market. In 1990 they were found guilty of dumping in Europe and they were thrown out of the USA for the same offence. Now they are doing it again.

Subsidies: The Norwegian salmon industry only survives today because it was saved from bankruptcy by a whopping £150 million subsidy from the Norwegian Government.

Now: The European Commission are trying to avert the crisis. Under pressure from the Norwegian Government they have set a totally unrealistic minimum import price - below production costs in both Scotland and of course in Norway.

And that lets the Norwegians go on dumping their massive excess production in the EU.

HOW DID THIS COME ABOUT?  
The Norwegian Government knows its way around Brussels and is doing its damndest to help its industry.

### BUT WHAT IS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT DOING?

Practically nothing. It hasn't complained, it hasn't objected, and when asked to vote for the Scottish Salmon farmers in Brussels - it always abstains!

### BUT WHY IS THIS THE CASE?

Is it because the Foreign Office insist that we don't upset the Norwegians so they vote to enter the EU? ... Or is it because there are no Conservative MPs with salmon farms in their constituencies?

### DON'T THE 6,000 PEOPLE IN SCOTLAND WHO WILL LOSE THEIR JOBS DESERVE BETTER THAN THIS?

"That's what we're asking", say Jane and Eric Twelves. "We don't want subsidies, all we want is a level playing field, and the British Government to get going in Brussels. They must demand free and fair competition. Before it's too late."

*The Scottish Salmon Industry*

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'More than 600 people were killed last year by this deliberate and senseless act of violence'

## Minister backs zero level for drivers who drink

By TIM JONES AND KEVIN EASON

A ZERO alcohol limit could be introduced for motorists, a transport minister suggested yesterday as he announced a £1 million Christmas television advertising campaign.

Robert Key said that drinking and driving, an issue with "appalling and horrific consequences", must be confronted. More than 600 people lost their lives and over 3,200 were seriously injured last year because of a "deliberate and senseless act of violence — drinking and driving," he said.

The roads minister's warning was made as a motoring report disclosed that almost three quarters of motorists believed the limit should be made zero for consuming alcohol before driving. At present, a driver is fined and loses his licence if he exceeds 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood.

For a healthy man who has had a meal, that is roughly equal to a pint and a half of beer or three glasses of wine or three shorts. For a woman, the limit might be less. Within the EC, only Holland, Portugal and Greece have a lower blood/alcohol limit. Other member states have a

limit of 80 and Ireland's is 100. Mr Key acknowledged that reducing the limit to zero would cause problems but said it was an issue which Parliament would wish to debate.

Yesterday, as he launched the television campaign, he constantly said the only sensible course for drivers was to drink no alcohol. "If you are going to drink then you should not drive. Whatever limit you set, the only safe limit is zero."

The campaign depicts a jolly Christmas dinner party where a young woman is waiting for her boyfriend, who has stopped off to have a "quick drink" on the way. The jolly turns to anguish when she receives a telephone call, telling her he is dead.

Supt Chris Leithead, of the traffic branch of the Metropolitan police, said his experience convinced him that aiming the campaign at women was correct. He recalled interrupting a dinner party 20 years ago to tell the hostess her husband had been killed on the M1 after drinking. "It was the ultimate conversation stopper."

"I have no doubt that women can bring enormous influence to bear on this whole question. They are less

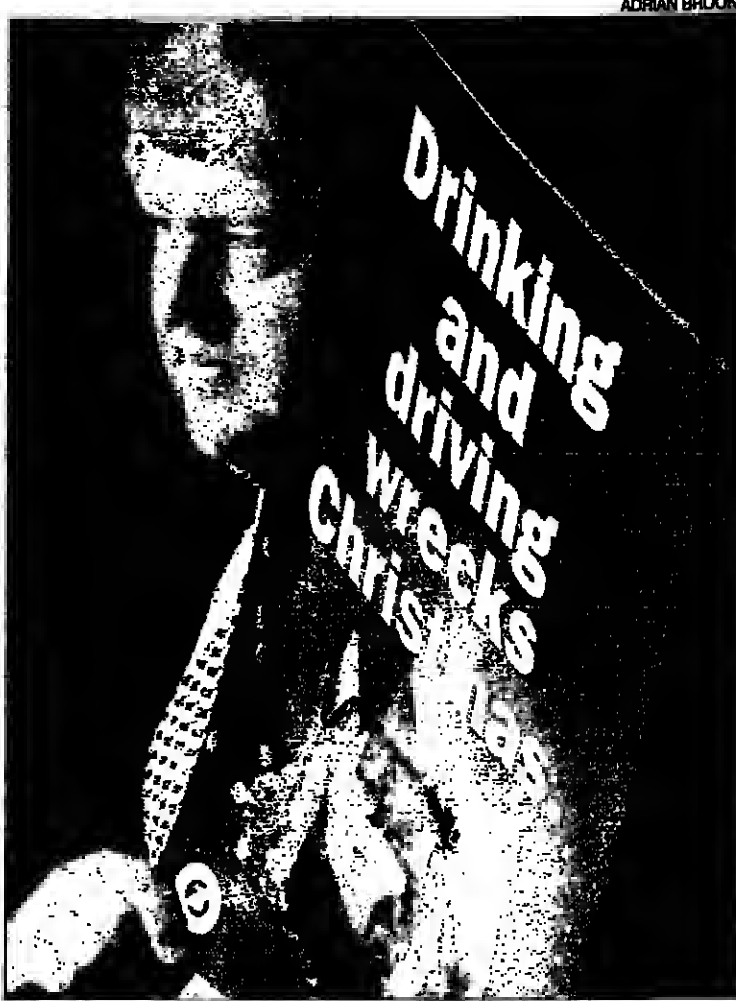
macho than men when it comes to drinking and driving."

The campaign is aimed primarily at 18 to 30-year-olds, thought to be the group most at risk from the temptations of Christmas office parties and festivities.

Mr Key said: "Drinking and driving is anti-social behaviour at its worst, yet people still do it. Even one drink can affect not only your reaction but also your judgment."

Over the past ten years, drink-driving offences have plunged. In 1982, drink-drive deaths totalled 1,530. Provisional figures for 1992 show such fatalities were down to 610. Last year, 108,856 drivers and riders in road injury accidents were breath-tested, with a 7.3 per cent failure rate. That compared with 43,341 drivers and motorcycle riders being breath-tested in 1982, with a 31.1 failure rate.

Edmund King, campaigns manager of the RAC, warned motorists to beware drunken pedestrians when they were driving home. He said 30 per cent of adult pedestrians involved in fatal accidents were over the legal limit for driving.



Robert Key hammering home the drink-drive message yesterday

## Steer clear of DIY breath testers, police tell motorists

By KEVIN EASON AND ANDREW PIERCE

POLICE warned motorists last night not to rely on do-it-yourself alcohol breath tests to beat the Christmas blitz on drinking and driving.

The Association of Chief Police Officers said that there was no evidence that new equipment claiming to give drivers a guide to blood-alcohol levels was reliable.

Alkohol Imports UK is one company that imports a personal alcohol tester. The Ensure machine, which costs £169 and conforms to government standards in five countries including the United States and Australia, is about the size of a personal stereo.

It gives a reading in a series of lights against an electronic bar graph with green showing no alcohol up to red indicating that the motorist must not drive. The machine uses microprocessors which, the manufacturer claims, make it as accurate as a police breath-test machine. Stuart Brown, the importer, said: "At the moment, there is no encouragement towards self-testing. Yet many might have been saved from losing their licences if they had used one. The police should not discourage that."

Police said, however, that blood-alcohol limits changed and testers gave no indication of the time taken to absorb alcohol or how long it took to go through the body.

Dr Richard Emerson, a former Home Office expert on drink-driving, said that motorists should beware of cheap alcohol breath meters that could be "hopelessly unreliable". "The body takes time to metabolise alcohol and rates are different," he said. "Simply picking up a breath-test machine and taking a sample is not enough and could lead many to believe they were fit to drive when they were not."

A test of the machine produced some surprising results in a random survey of lunchtime drinkers in the City of London yesterday. Several of the workers proclaimed that they were fit to drive, but after blowing into the machine discovered they were way over the limit. "It would make me think twice," said Gavin Altree-Williams, 24, an accountant. "It has to be a sensible precaution. It is too expensive, but I think when inevitably the price comes down it will be a big seller."

Mark Hughes, 22, a shipbroker, was on his third pint and, at more than 6ft and weighing about 12st, thought he was under the limit, yet the light shot to the top. Mr Hughes, from Hammer-smith, was not impressed. "I am not convinced it is accurate." His colleague James Morris, 32, from Blackheath, who was downing his second pint after five the night before, was under the limit.

Dr Richard Emerson, a

stopped a number of other vehicles travelling home from the Kent ferry ports. Among them was a horse box which was half a tonne over the limit.

Vans stopped and found to be overloaded are held until their loads have been reduced. Drivers face prosecution and fines of up to £5,000, as well as licence penalty points.

John Simmonds, head of Kent's trading standards operations, said: "Anything significantly above the maximum weight creates a danger to the driver, passengers and other road users."

A guide for drivers on the drinks run shows that a case of 24 of the 25cl bottles of lager weighs about 10kg or 22lb. A six-bottle case of wine weighs 8kg or 17lb, and a case of 24 cans of beer 12kg or 26lb.

## Lawyers in Levitt case carry on arguing

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

LEADING QCs in the Roger Levitt case are at odds after the judge criticised the defence counsel.

David Cocks QC, who prosecuted the case, has lodged a complaint with the Bar Council's professional conduct committee against Jonathan Goldberg QC, Levitt's counsel, accused by the judge of causing "some prejudice" and making "grave representations".

Mr Goldberg, who is on holiday abroad, yesterday said he would fight "this false allegation tooth and nail", but would leave detailed refutation "to the appropriate forum at the proper time".

His friends said he was being made a scapegoat by the Serious Fraud Office after the furore when Levitt was sentenced to 180 hours' community service. Levitt had admitted lying to City regulators about his failing business. "They are looking for someone to blame for their own incompetence," one lawyer said.

The prosecution maintains that remarks by Mr Goldberg in his opening speech to the jury jeopardised its case. The prosecution sought a retrial, but the judge refused.

John Perry, Levitt's solicitor, said there had been a campaign "to lead people to believe that Mr Goldberg's opening speech coupled with the refusal of the judge to order a retrial railroaded the SFO into accepting Mr Levitt's minimal plea. That is nonsense."

Friends of Mr Goldberg say the prosecution made a "catastrophic series of blunders" which the defence exploited and which are expected to be raised in the Commons.

Letters, page 17

## Priest kept hoard of child porn

A clergyman was fined £1,000 after a raid by the obscene publications squad uncovered a large quantity of child pornography at his home. Jack Woods, 53, admitted having indecent videos, magazines and a book.

Camberwell magistrates were told that the priest, from West Norwood, south London, claimed most of the material was obtained more than 10 years ago when indecency laws were less vigorously enforced.

## Meningitis alert

A girl aged 14 months has died from meningitis. Seven hundred pupils at a school near by in Weston-super-Mare, Avon, have been given antibiotics after the disease was contracted by two students, who are recovering.

## £1m DSS find

Forged DSS payment books with a potential value of more than £1 million were found at a hotel on the M5 in Somerset after a receptionist became suspicious of three guests.

## Lock charged

Tony Lock, the former Test cricketer who was cleared in Australia last week of indecently assaulting a girl aged 15, was charged with four offences involving a girl aged 10.

## Hit and run

Elizabeth Hanlon, 70, died after being hit by a stolen car near her home in Hartlepool. The driver did not stop.

## No to the eyes

A hypnotist has been banned in Cheltenham because councillors say his act is a "threat to public safety".

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# Killer of man with three mistresses is jailed for life

By A Staff Reporter

A MAN who bound and gagged his mother's lover, kept him in a bitterly cold lock-up, stabbed him to death and burnt the body beyond recognition was jailed for life yesterday.

Judge Nina Lowry described the murder by Karl Watson as "deliberate, calculated cruelty". She recommended that he serve a minimum of 20 years for killing John Shippey, a 47-year-old businessman.

She said at the Old Bailey: "Anyone capable of such cruelty against a fellow human being may repeat it."

After the killing, Watson, a 29-year-old car dealer, put the body in a car boot and set it on fire in a country lane.

The court had been told that Watson's mother Josephine was one of four women in the life of the murdered man, a £40,000-a-year finance director at Doves, the Jaguar and Ford dealership in Croydon, south London. It also emerged that Mr Shippey had embezzled £800,000 from the company to finance his "extraordinary" lifestyle.

He owned three properties

in this country, two luxury apartments in Spain, three cars, including a Porsche, and an eight-berth motor cruiser called *John Boy*. He also had £180,000 in bank accounts in Switzerland, Jersey, Spain and Gibraltar.

Mr Shippey and his wife Sheila had a daughter to whom he was devoted and he bought them a house in a private residential complex.

The other women in his life were Sue Hipperson, another Doves employee, and Christine Milson, the barmaid of his local pub. Each knew about some of her rivals and accepted the situation.

Mr Shippey, a man described as having a charismatic personality, always carried one or two briefcases in which he kept up to £50,000 and meticulous records of his complex financial dealings.

Watson's mother met her lover in the 1970s when she worked as a secretary for Doves, and their relationship survived his marriage in 1980 to Sheila, another employee.

When new auditors moved in to check the company books, Mr Shippey needed

money to hide his deception and Watson's mother was afraid that he would sell the £250,000 house in Ightham, Kent, that he shared with her and on which she had lavished care and money.

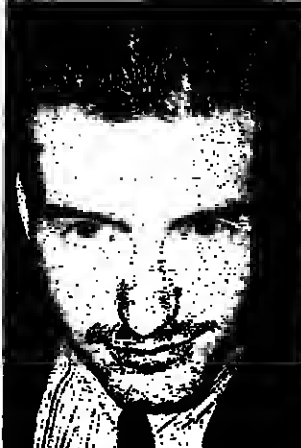
The court was told that before the murder their volatile relationship had begun to deteriorate and they argued over trivial matters.

Watson had never liked his mother's lover, although he envied his money, and police believed the motive for the murder was money.

Watson struck at his mother's home after an evening out with her and friends. Exactly what happened at the house was not made clear in court, but it ended with Mr Shippey being taken, bound and gagged, to a bitterly cold lock-up on an industrial estate, where he was held in his company Ford Sierra.

Bruce Cousins, who helped to dispose of the body and whose confession led to Watson's arrest, told the court that the lock-up was so cold that he went home to get a heater to warm Mr Shippey.

Cousins said Watson raged



Clockwise from top left: John Shippey, the murdered man; the house he shared with Josephine Watson; the burnt-out car in which his charred remains were found; and his killer, Karl Watson, the son of his mistress

at his victim "You should have paid her the money" before going "absolutely berserk" and plunging the knife into his chest.

The body was driven to a deserted spot at Mersham, Surrey, where it was burnt

beyond recognition with the use of gas canisters.

Watson, married with four children, from Croydon, was convicted late on Monday.

He had denied murdering Mr Shippey and falsely imprisoning him in December

1991. He was given a further seven years for false imprisonment.

Cousins, 25, of Croydon, admitted helping to dispose of the body and will be sentenced later.

Outside the court, Chief

Supt Pat Crossan said: "The judge described this as a planned kidnap, ruthless in the way he detained him. I agree with her. The severity of the sentence must reflect the kind of character involved and the manner of the crime."

## Gene faults 'should be kept from insurers'

By Nigel Hawkes  
SCIENCE EDITOR

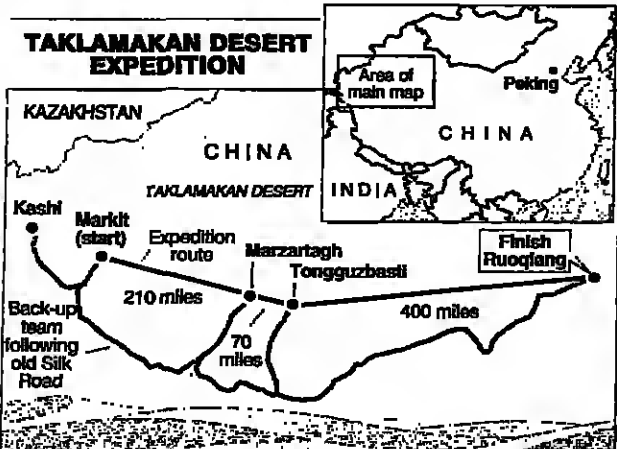
PEOPLE with genetic defects should be allowed to conceal them when applying for life insurance, a report published yesterday says.

Only if the cover sought is very big, or a family history of disease is disclosed by conventional questions, should insurance companies be allowed to require disclosure, the Nuffield Council on Bioethics says. The council says that only in exceptional circumstances should information acquired by testing be made available to a third party.

There can be no compulsion to take tests, and the central issue is respect for the individual," said Dame June Lloyd, who chaired the working party producing the report. "But there may be occasions where disclosure to other family members has to be considered."

Those whose tests were positive might risk being denied life insurance — and possibly the opportunity of a mortgage.

The report calls for discussions between the government and the insurance industry over the use of genetic data, and meanwhile for a moratorium on companies requiring that applicants for moderate-sized policies disclose the results of tests.



## Poplar trees thrive in the desert of death

By John Young

IN NORTHWEST China's Taklamakan desert a poplar forest is flourishing with no evident source of water. It was one of many discoveries made by a team led by Major Charles Blackmore, of the Royal Green Jackets, which has completed the first crossing of the so-called "desert of death".

Safely back in London yesterday, Major Blackmore said the expedition came upon the forest beside a dried-up river bed. "We dug holes in search of the water supply, but found nothing," he said.

The expedition covered 780 miles in 59 days, across sand dunes up to 1,000ft high and a

mile or more wide, in temperatures ranging from 100F to minus 20F. Its members — four Britons, an American, two Chinese and four local camel handlers — were supported by a back-up team travelling in four-wheel drive vehicles along the old silk road south of the desert.

The travellers were at one point forced to share their precious water supplies with their 30 camels. "It is the most dangerous desert on earth," Major Blackmore said.

"It is surrounded by three mountain ranges." The tribesmen agreed to go only because they believed the team was searching for gold.

## KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

**Oviedo tournament**

AFTER nine rounds of the 600-player tournament at Oviedo in Spain, the lead with 8 points is shared by Leonid Yudasin, Ilya Smirin and Miguel Illescas, ahead of such luminaries as Judith Polgar, Jan Timman, Vishy Anand, Artur Yusupov and Tony Miles. The most violent game, and one of great importance for the theory of chess openings, was the win by the middle Polgar sister Sofia against the Russian grandmaster Vaisar in the fashionably sharp counter-attacking system, the Benko Gambit. Polgar's plan of rupturing the centre and sacrificing a piece to hound the white king constitutes a new way of handling the black position. The climax of the black attack came on move 31 with ... Nc6+ when 32 bxc6 fails to 32 ... Rxd5.

**White:** Anatoly Vaisar  
**Black:** Sofia Polgar  
Oviedo Tournament  
December 1993

**Benko Gambit**

1 d4	Nf6
2 c4	c5
3 d5	b5
4 cxb5	a6
5 Bc3	g6
6 e4	d6
7 Na3	Bg7
8 Nc2	O-O
9 Nc3	exd5
10 Nd5	Nxe4
11 Bc4	Qh4+
12 Kd2	Qxe4
13 Qf3	Bh6+
14 Kc3	Qe1+
15 Kc3	Qc1
16 Bc4	Qd1

**Belgrade**

In the powerful Investbanka tournament at Belgrade, former British champion Julian Hodgson has got off to a good start with draws against two of the favourites, Evgeny Bareev and Alexander Beliavsky. After two rounds Vladimir Kramnik, Beliavsky and Bareev share the lead with 1½ points each.

Winning Move, page 44

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# European allies embarrass Tories on social chapter

By Philip Webster  
Political Editor

## Labour will exploit to the full a draft manifesto for next year's Euro elections which supports the social chapter

THE government is facing embarrassment over the decision of its allies in the European parliament to support a draft manifesto for next June's elections giving enthusiastic support to the social chapter.

Labour leaders intend to exploit to the full a document from the European People's Party, the group of German and other Christian Democrats with whom the British Conservatives normally vote, which calls for the implementation of European economic and monetary union "taking into account the social dimension".

In a passage that the Tory right might regard as heretical it also states that governments must ensure that "the functioning of the market remains subordinate to general welfare and social justice".

The Tory party, anticipating that the European People's Party would come up with such a draft "declaration of principles", had dissociated itself from the group's stance on the single currency and the social chapter in advance.

It reiterated yesterday that British Conservative candidates would fight on their own

manifesto, which will set out the Government's well-rehearsed objections to the social chapter.

It also pointed out that the Conservative MEPs do not belong to the European People's Party in the way that British Labour MPs belong to the European Socialist group.

A senior Conservative Party official said that if there was ever a conflict between Tory policy and European People's Party policy, it was the Tory policy that prevailed.

Even so having been embarrassed by Tory exploitation of its decision to sign up to a socialist manifesto that included a 35-hour working week, Labour is determined to hit back over the European People's Party manifesto.

John Smith immediately made it plain that Labour MEPs would not be bound by the 35-hour provision and that it was only an option.

Labour intends to use European People's Party document whenever the Tories challenge it over the policies of the socialist group.

The group calls in its document for the restoration of faith in monetary union. "Every doubt about monetary union will only increase the growth of mistrust and uncertainty or slow down long-term saving and investment."

It is the group's alignment with the social chapter that will provide most ammunition. It says that "economic expansion must not occur at the expense of the social demands and obligations of the European Union".

Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative Party chairman, will argue that Labour's links to the Socialist group are far tighter than the Conservatives' relatively loose tie-up with the European People's Party.

A committee headed by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is drafting the Tory manifesto. The party leadership hopes to produce a document that will bring together the Euro-sceptics and enthusiasts and avoid a repeat of the Maastricht battle.

Throughout her premiership Lady Thatcher prided herself on personally promoting British exports, including big arms sales. She was active in talks with Middle Eastern regimes where contacts between heads of government are often crucial. She, and

Alan Clark, who will give evidence to the enquiry next week, believed that Britain should not be too moralistic on these matters. They believed it was in Britain's interests to sell equipment to Iraq, on both foreign policy and commercial grounds.

They did not want Iraq to be defeated by Iran in their long-running war. Moreover, she and others argued that if Britain did not trade with Iraq, then France and Germany would do so without any qualms.

The realpolitik school argue that there is inevitably dissembling and hypocrisy in arms sales. Governments have to reconcile their public

## Sound of big guns stirs arms enquiry

It is time for the big picture. Lord Justice Scott has spent several months delving into the details of the arms-to-Iraq affair, essentially who misled whom, when. Officials have told how they failed to give ministers adequate briefings and frequently connived with ministers to give false information to Parliament.

It has, as Robin Cook argued yesterday, been "a tale of deceit and cynicism". The government not only approved sales of machine tools and other equipment to Iraq, strongly suspecting or knowing that they would be used in making arms, against their public policy, but they also disguised from MPs a relaxation of previous tight controls.

So far, however, only the Whitehall and intelligence buffs have been interested. The topic is seldom mentioned by MPs.

But this morning Baroness Thatcher appears. It should be great theatre: the relentless Lord Justice Scott and Presley Baxendale, his counsel, versus the Iron Lady. Her very presence will change the nature of the enquiry, focusing on the broader issues as well as details.

As Michael Dynes reported on the enquiry yesterday, there are several specific questions which the enquiry will want answered. These are all variants on the old Watergate question: what did she know and when did she know it? In particular, how much did Lady Thatcher know about sales to Iraq and how aware she was that a parliamentary answer she gave in 1989 about the controls was misleading?

Earlier witnesses have referred to her close interest in arms sales and what was going on in Iraq.

The answers all matter, but they are secondary to the broader question of her attitude towards arms sales. She makes no reference to the subject in her memoirs.

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They did not want Iraq to be defeated by Iran in their long-running war. Moreover, she and others argued that if Britain did not trade with Iraq, then France and Germany would do so without any qualms.

The realpolitik school argue that there is inevitably dissembling and hypocrisy in arms sales. Governments have to reconcile their public

lie's dislike of authoritarian and brutal regimes such as Saddam Hussein's with their wish to promote exports and to safeguard jobs. Getting out of the arms trade is not as simple as it sounds in view of the number of jobs in companies supplying defence equipment.

But if that results in the scale of deception disclosed by witnesses to the Scott enquiry, particularly in the botched Matrix Churchill trial, then public trust in government is devalued.

Complete openness is an illusion. Selling to the Middle East is not a clean business. But a succession of officials

including several who are now in senior posts and ambassadors, have shown a patronising contempt towards those they are meant to serve.

Lady Thatcher may have encouraged such behaviour, not necessarily directly, but indirectly because of what officials believed to be her attitude. That is part of the price of a long period of one-party rule. Officials and ministers believe they can bend and break rules without any real check. The interests of political expediency become synonymous with the national interest.

PETER RIDDELL

## Province's right to stay in UK defended

By Philip Webster  
Political Editor

JOHN Major is seeking a strong reaffirmation of Ulster's right to remain in the United Kingdom in the declaration being drawn up by the Irish and British Governments. At the same time he is welcoming the apparent willingness of Albert Reynolds, the Irish Prime Minister, to write into the declaration his readiness to hold a referendum on Ireland's territorial claim to the North.

This was confirmed yesterday as an eight-strong team of senior officials from both governments continued work on the declaration in advance of the meeting between the two leaders in Brussels on Friday or Saturday.

A leading Unionist warned Mr Major against making any further concessions. Peter Robinson, the Democratic Unionist deputy leader, said Unionists were "prepared to go to the wall on this issue".

The East Belfast MP said the Government had determined to seek terms with the IRA and negate democracy to appease Dublin. "Now that the Major Government has openly set itself upon this course I should warn the Prime Minister that in the execution of this policy he will have a knot before him which he will never undo. The prevailing and fixed opinion of the great majority of the community is that they will never accept any further dilution of the Unionist position nor any further strengthening of Dublin interference."

Mr Robinson's criticism followed a speech from a leading Ulster Unionist, John Taylor, in his Strangford constituency, which he said hundreds of thousands of Ulster Protestants would have to quit the province within a decade of a united Ireland.

Meanwhile Mr Reynolds said the Irish Government was relying on Mr Major to keep Unionist leaders informed about joint London-Dublin efforts. He said he had told Mr Major it was his responsibility because of Unionists' reluctance to take up invitations to meet ministers from Dublin.

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## Government is accused of suppressing VAT debate

By Robert Morgan  
and Alice Thomson

LABOUR last night accused the Government of suppressing Commons debate on VAT on domestic fuel because it feared that Tory backbenchers would vote it down. But ministers claimed that incompetence by Labour business managers meant that there was to be no debate or vote.

During sharp question time exchanges in the Commons yesterday, John Smith, the Labour leader, said that the House was being deprived of an opportunity to vote to let Tory MPs "off the hook" because many had promised their constituents they would vote against it. But John Major replied that the House had already voted on the issue several times.

Government whips had expected Labour to table an amendment to the main Budget resolution, as was done by Roy Jenkins in the early 1970s. It failed to do so, and last night MPs had no opportunity to show their feelings on the issue.

As only the compensation package, and not the imposition of the tax, was contained in last week's Budget, MPs are unlikely to have a chance to vote on the issue during the protracted consideration of the Finance Bill, which will begin in the new year. However, Labour will find ways to force a vote.

Government sources described as "blatant" Mr Smith's protests in the Commons yesterday, saying that Labour should have tabled an



Heseltine: claimed Labour was embarrassed

amendment if it had wanted a vote.

As the Budget debate came to its conclusion last night Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, said that Labour could have staged a vote on VAT but was embarrassed by the statement made by Donald Dewar, the shadow Social Security Secretary, in *The People*.

"He had quantified the amount of compensation that was required at 30p a week, whereas the Chancellor of the Exchequer made an announcement of very substantially larger figures. Once again we are seeing Labour having to face up to the reality of voting against what one of its own spokesmen said was necessary," he said.

Robin Cook, the shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, said *The People* had printed a retraction of the statement from Mr Dewar and had

admitted that there was no such figure put by Mr Dewar. "We will continue to press for a compensation package that measures up to the total cost of VAT on fuel and not only the half of it," he said.

Mr Heseltine went on to announce that he was increasing the department's budget for smaller businesses by £8 million. He also announced two new initiatives worth £26 million "to help industrial competitiveness".

Mr Cook said that the Chancellor had got things terribly wrong. It was the married, mortgaged, motor-ing, middle classes who would be "clobbered". Traditional middle-income Tory supporters would find themselves facing 3 to 4 per cent tax increases next spring. If interest rates were not cut, the Chancellor would find the economy "tumbling down a black hole".

## Inflation pushes up defence bill

By Michael Evans  
Defence Correspondent

THE Ministry of Defence is paying £30 million too much for equipment each year by failing to adhere to its own guidelines for awarding contracts, a National Audit Office report said yesterday.

In one case, an extra premium of £72 million is expected to be handed over for the purchase of 44 EH101 Merlin helicopters for the Royal Navy, the equivalent of about £7 million a year over a ten-year production cycle. The RAF's £200 million Alamo anti-radar missile could also cost an extra £14 million, and the £853 million Rapier anti-aircraft missile system an additional £6.4 million.

The overspending has arisen because of a system in which defence companies tendering bids are allowed to include a "variation of price" arrangement, as a hedge against inflation, especially for long-running contracts.

Under military guidelines, a minimum of 10 per cent of the value of the contract is supposed to be fixed. Yet the audit office discovered that the average "non-variable" element of the 33 high-value contracts investigated was only about 5 per cent. The audit office said that contractors were unwilling to quote a firm price without some leeway for inflation. They always assumed a higher inflation rate than the Treasury.

Accounting for Inflation in Defence Procurement (National Audit Office, HMSO, £7.40).

## New contender enters Sunday trading lists

By Arthur Leathley, Political Correspondent

PLANS to end confusion over Sunday shopping were disrupted last night by late changes to the government's attempts to reform trading laws. Only 24 hours before MPs vote on which of three options should form new legislation, a fourth choice was added to the list.

Sir Peter Emery, a senior Tory backbencher, called for a ban on most shops opening before 1pm on Sundays, with unlimited opening allowed after 1pm.

The decision to include the fourth option provoked fears among MPs that tonight's knife-edge vote could collapse without a clear conclusion. "This has just muddled the water. It will create more problems and the debate will be more heated than ever," one senior Labour MP said.

MPs will be given a free vote on each of the options. When one option receives a majority, any remaining choices will fall without a vote. Sir Peter's addition, which is unlikely to command wide support, is expected to be put to the vote before the three options previously included in the bill.

□ All shops allowed to open on Sundays

□ All shops allowed to open only on the four Sundays immediately before Christmas. Small shops and some large stores allowed to trade year-round.

□ Unlimited Sunday opening for small shops. Most larger shops, including supermarkets, limited to six hours' trading.

If one of the options is

given a majority, Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is likely to bring forward new legislation based on the option receiving greatest support.

The main battle is expected to be between the second and third choices, with bookmakers ranking the last option the favourite. Each campaign group claims the upper hand but admits that victory may be secured by only a few votes.

Unlimited opening, favoured by John Major and senior ministers, is seen as the rank outsider, although rival campaign groups admit that it has gained support in recent days. Campaigners will put pressure on MPs to ensure that they vote to defeat options they oppose, rather than abstain. "It is too close to call. Abstentions could be very costly," said a Conservative MP leading the campaign for six hours' supermarket opening.

However, several MPs from Labour and Tory benches are expected to abstain. "A free vote can put MPs in a very difficult position and I think a number will not be in the division lobbies," a Labour front-bench spokesman said.

Leading article, page 17

### In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Scotland, Sunday Trading Bill, committee, first day. Motion on independent television takeovers.

Lords (2.30): Debate on the need for respect for other people and the law.

## A HOPEFUL CHRISTMAS

To all our kind friends especially the bereft and redundant. You were left with so little and gave so much for the care of the gravely ill. Our thanks go out for your richness of spirit and truly Amazing Grace.

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# Two monsters from history hold sway in wasteland city



FROM ANATOL LIEVEN  
IN KALININGRAD

RUSSIA's westernmost city, Kaliningrad, is dominated by two monsters. Under their baleful gaze, a largely apathetic and bewildered population is preparing to vote on Sunday.

Kaliningrad residents have named a huge concrete tower block that was meant to house the regional council "the Monster". Its completion fell victim to the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Russian economy.

This monster presides over the "city centre", a wasteland of rough grass, stones and crumbling concrete houses. Before 1945, this was the medieval centre of Königsberg, capital of German East Prussia. Partly destroyed in the Second World War, the remains were bulldozed by the Soviet victors who annexed the province to make

IN A blow to President Yeltsin's administration, only five days before Russian parliamentary elections, coalminers in the Arctic region of Vorkuta have voted to go ahead with an indefinite strike (Anatol Lieven writes). They are demanding regular pay and more state subsidies for their industry. As the election campaign enters its final stage, the reformist parties are becoming increasingly worried that their greatest enemy might be public apathy. Opinion polls differ widely on the likely chances of the different parties.

way for a model Soviet city, which is now going the way of others of its kind.

The German past is the reason why Kaliningrad is still saddled with its second monster, after whom it is named. Mikhail Kalinin, President of the Soviet Union in the 1940s, was a nasty bit of work even by Stalinist standards, who served the Soviet terror machine with ferocious determination. Local officials admit that the name Kaliningrad, and all the other communist names of its

streets and squares, is an embarrassment. But what to do? If they are changed, the only logical course would be a return to the old German names. But a return to the area's German history is seen as too much of a political threat.

Since the end of the Soviet Union, Kaliningrad has been cut off from the rest of Russia by Lithuania and Belarusia. With the Kurile Islands at the opposite end of Russia, it is the last Russian booty from the Second World War, and Russian nationalists and



## RUSSIAN ELECTION

Soviet loyalists are determined to keep it.

Recent months have seen visits by a whole stream of top Russian politicians, including President Yeltsin, to Kaliningrad, emphasising their patriotism and that the region is an inalienable part of Russia, as well as appeal-

ing to the huge armed forces stationed in the territory to give the Government their loyalty.

Vladimir Shumeiko, deputy prime minister and leading reformer, has made an appeal to the military a centrepiece of his election campaign in Kaliningrad. On his visit last week, he opened a block of flats for naval officers. About 15,000 officers from the fleet alone are without proper housing in Kaliningrad. This sort of demonstrative help from the Government seems to have had some effect. Several officers said they would vote for Mr Shumeiko's Russia's Choice, the main reformist political bloc.

Hopes for the economic future of the region are concentrated on the local leadership's plan for a free economic zone. Mr Shumeiko has been winning local support by promising finally to get the zone passed into law in Moscow. A

draft decree has now been agreed by the Russian Government, and is due to be signed by President Yeltsin in the next few days.

Much of the local population, however, is sceptical about the zone's prospects and as far as the elections are concerned great confusion reigns. Even the deputy chief of the local election commission admitted that understanding the voting system was not easy; in particular, the lack of information on the ballot forms about the party affiliation of candidates.

This confusion was reflected in the answers of Kaliningraders when asked their own probable voting choices. Alexander Koslov, a retired naval officer, said that he is strongly against Mr Yeltsin and Russia's Choice. But he will vote for the local administration chief, despite the fact that he is running with the backing of Russia's Choice.

## Gatt cliffhanger sets stage for EC summit row

FROM GEORGE BROCK  
IN BRUSSELS

With a Gatt agreement tantalisingly close, there is every indication that EC leaders are about to become embroiled in a classic dispute about money and sanctions

WITH the opening of the hectic final phase of the world trade talks yesterday, the stage was set for an internal row over money and trade sanctions at the weekend European Community summit in Brussels.

United States and Community negotiators flew to Geneva to report to Peter Sutherland, the Director-General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, on the results of almost 24 hours of non-stop talks which failed to resolve every transatlantic dispute but at least made substantial progress.

Gatt's Uruguay Round negotiations, which have continued for seven-and-a-half years, now have just seven days left for all the parties to reach an agreement. Sir Leon Brittan, the EC's chief trade negotiator, said when he arrived in Geneva that he "remained totally convinced that the Uruguay Round can and must be completed in the time allocated to it". His confidence was shared by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, who said a deal was "certainly possible and on balance probable".

Although Sir Leon and Mickey Kantor, the American Trade Representative, could not announce a full package of agreements when their talks ended early yesterday morning, Community and US officials reached understandings on the knotty question of reducing farm subsidies as well as import tariffs.

Success in these areas should allow Mr Sutherland to knit together the final compromises needed for more than 100 countries to agree a new trade treaty by the deadline of December 15.

The French Government was yesterday still claiming that it had not given its assent

to any of the provisional agreements reached in Brussels, but it became clear at a meeting of Community foreign ministers that France's arguments are now directed at exacting concessions from its European partners as the price of its final approval. The EC-US talks had made "decisive progress", Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, said. According to him, last December's Blair House agreement on agriculture has been supplanted by an entirely new deal.

M Juppé wants Germany, Britain, The Netherlands and

Luxembourg to lift their objections to "sharper" EC trade weapons which would match America's "Super 301" trade retaliation laws. He is also demanding compensation for the shrinking of farm subsidies of a kind which would hit German farmers hardest.

Germany would thus be forced to ask for compensation from the already tight EC budget. German officials suggest that they may seek an additional £350 million from their partners.

French requests to link settlement of these questions to approval of the final Gatt deal were, however, rejected by all the other ministers. "The French are making the link between them but there is no link," Mr Hurd said.

If a Gatt agreement lays down new rules for world trade, Germany may be ready to compromise with France on enhancing the EC's trade weaponry, perhaps by strengthening the European Commission's powers against artificially cheap "dumping" of imports in Community markets.

But these arguments will unroll throughout next year and are unlikely to be settled at this weekend's summit, which is supposed to be devoted to discussing ways of putting Europe's unemployed back to work.

The Belgian Government, which will chair the summit, is worried that the jobs debate will be overshadowed by a classical row over Community funds.

Simon Jenkins, page 16



Served up by irate farmers at a Paris news conference, Grand Cru du Gatt wine boasts it is "produced anywhere, is rich in pesticides and drunk by anybody".



Peter Sutherland, the Gatt Director-General, left, and Mickey Kantor, the US negotiator, in Geneva yesterday

## Legal battle teases trade players

BY GEORGE BROCK, EUROPEAN EDITOR

TRADE negotiations are 90 per cent small print and 10 per cent theatre. If the Gatt talks stagger to a successful conclusion next week, the world's governments will count themselves lucky that the two men who hold Gatt's fate in their hands enjoy legal haggling and revel in play-acting.

When they emerged yesterday from all-night talks on the 13th floor of the biscuit-coloured Breydel building which houses the European Commission, neither Sir Leon Brittan nor his American counterpart, Mickey Kantor, looked at all rumpled.

Mr Kantor's role required him to "break off" the talks, issue a public complaint about the EC's intransigence and put his team of officials on their private plane for the short

flight to Gatt's headquarters in Geneva. Sir Leon's part required a meeting with fellow European Commissioners and then with foreign ministers who were given a brisk, but not very detailed, rundown on the considerable progress made overnight. Then he, too, set off for Geneva.

The gap between the EC and US positions was deftly exaggerated by both Sir Leon and Mr Kantor. Sir Leon then relied on the British and German ministers to firmly head off the latest French attempt to sabotage the carefully-scripted progress towards a final deal. Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Dr Klaus Kinkel, Germany's Foreign Minister, performed on cue: France found

no support. The deals which emerged this week were no surprise to France. When the French Foreign Minister, Alain Juppé, and phalanx of his furious-looking officials barrelled through the glass doors of the Breydel on Tuesday night to protest to Sir Leon, M Juppé was making gestures for the benefit of a French audience. He knew he was unlikely to change the course of events.

Four men have sat at the heart of the talks: Sir Leon and Mr Kantor and their key assistants, Robert Madelin and Rufus Yerxa. Mr Madelin, a French-speaking official from the British Department of Trade on loan to Sir Leon's private staff, and Mr Yerxa, an elegant American trade diplomat of encyclo-

paedic knowledge, are the "memory men" of their delegations. They have followed Gatt's ups and downs for years and sit at their bosses' elbows to supply the figures and re-drafted formulas.

But now Sir Leon and Mr Kantor, both lawyers turned politicians, are centre stage as technical talk gives way to the business of coaxing the right sequence of moves from the main players. Both come from Lithuanian émigré families: Mr Kantor's ancestors settled in Tennessee, Sir Leon's in Finchley. Their styles are markedly different: Mr Kantor is laid back and self-deprecating while Sir Leon tends to conduct most conversations as if he is in court. But they agree on the stage-management of Gatt's final phase.

## Tearful Tapie's tragi-comedy reaches climax

BY CHARLES BREMNER

AFTER a theatrical debate that embarrassed the Socialist opposition, the French parliament voted yesterday to lift the immunity of Bernard Tapie, the flamboyant entrepreneur-politician whose spectacular career has been dragged down this year in a tragi-comedy of alleged skulduggery.

An examining judge from northern France sought the measure as a prelude to charging M Tapie, a left-wing member for the Marseilles suburbs, with fraud in the affairs of the Tesut company, which he took over with a string of others, including Addidas, in the 1980s. The self-made millionaire, who stepped down as a Socialist minister last March, is also under investigation into alleged match-fixing involving Olympic Mar-

seille, the European football team he owns.

M Tapie, 50, who rose to celebrity as the most go-getting of showman tycoons in the 1980s, seized on the debate to depict himself as a statesman who has fallen victim to the vengeance of a French establishment which rejects ambitious outsiders from the lower orders. "I will not give up. I will fight on because, like you, I am attached to the most noble of causes - that of the public good," he told parliament, his voice cracking with emotion. "I remain a man still standing, a man who walks, his conscience at peace. Since you have to judge me, go ahead and do it," he concluded. Many members, including those in the Gaullist majority which was expected to vote against M Tapie, were embarrassed at being

forced to take a public stand in what they see as an antiquated procedure that mixes politics with justice.

The immunity of members has been lifted only four times in the 35-year history of the Fifth Republic. The first was that of the then senator François Mitterrand, who was accused in 1959 of staging a fake assassination attempt against himself to attract publicity.

Most agonised of all yesterday were the Socialist opposition, which embraced M Tapie when he emerged as a celebrity in the 1980s and has done its best to forget him since his business slumped and he ran into trouble with the law. The Socialists voted not to lift his immunity, a decision that amounted to a formality anyway because members are not protected outside parliamentary ses-

sions and the present one ends in two weeks.

For M Tapie, 50, a working class hero in a political elite dominated by the educated classes, the immunity debate was a platform to proclaim his innocence and indulge in the showmanship that has endeared him to the public. As the prosecutors have closed in on him, M Tapie has been depicting himself as a martyr and victim of a vengeful establishment.

"It's a marhant. Those bastards just want to get me because they can't stand someone who is a success and flaunts it," he said.

His woes multiplied yesterday with news that he had been stopped for speeding and was likely to lose his licence after being fined at 130mph at the wheel of his Renault Safrane on a motorway.

## Defence lawyers face Turkish intimidation

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

LAWYERS defending political prisoners in Turkey were being intimidated and prosecuted, especially when they tried to complain about alleged torture of their clients, the Law Society said yesterday.

The lawyers were at great risk the society added as Ankara pursued its undeclared war against Kurdish separatists. They were "being subjected to threats and harassment, at least some of which comes openly from the Turkish authorities", the society said in a report by a delegation that visited Turkey

in October. They called on ministers to press Turkey to honour rights commitments.

"Two-thirds of the lawyers we interviewed... were being prosecuted for complaining about human rights abuses," Louise Christian, a solicitor with the delegation, said.

Fourteen Turkish lawyers had been arrested since the delegation returned to Britain. "Five of those arrested are people interviewed in our report, who complained that the security police are using torture to extract false confessions naming defence lawyers," Ms Christian said.



Bossi: unruffled by the charging of colleague

# No doubt you're all off to Oddbins.



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# Settler threats of retaliation cloud Christopher visit

FROM RICHARD BRESTON  
IN HEBRON  
AND MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON

THOUSANDS of grieving Israelis followed the bodies of two murdered Jewish settlers on a cortege across the country yesterday, blaming the government for inadequate protection and vowing to retaliate against Arabs.

In one of the most emotionally charged funerals in recent memory, rabbis, students and right-wing activists turned out in force to pay their last respects to Mordechai Lapid and his son Shalom, who were shot by Palestinian militants at their settlement in Kiryat Arba, near Hebron.

The Arab town was eerily quiet as thousands of extra troops enforced a curfew on the Palestinian population of 90,000. Soldiers searched homes and increased security around the cemetery to prevent vigilante action by settlers.

The show of force did not offer much hope, however, that the cycle of violence that has left 37 Palestinians and 14 Israelis dead since the Israel-PLO peace agreement was signed three months ago, was likely to be halted.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, which yesterday claimed responsibility for the Kiryat Arba ambush, said in a leaflet that further attacks were being planned. It warned the army to "prepare more body bags".

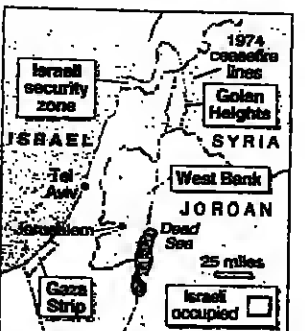
The threat was matched by settlers, who are organising their own paramilitary defence force, known as "Hashomer" (the Hebrew for guard). "These deaths are only the beginning of an Arab-Jewish civil war, another Lebanon or Sarajevo," Elyakim Haetzni, a prominent figure in

**A funeral procession for two murdered Israelis produced grief and calls for revenge. At the same time the US made a gesture intended to lure Syria closer to Israel**

the militant settler council, said.

The atmosphere of near-hysteria in the settlements, and the unease that the violence has generated, seemed to overshadow the modest diplomatic accomplishments of Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State.

Mr Christopher, trying to encourage Syria to make peace with Israel, has told President Assad of the small



but symbolic decision to ease sanctions against Damascus by allowing it to receive three second-hand, American-made Boeing 727s from Kuwait. Officials said this was designed to improve US-Syrian relations and demonstrate the economic benefits available to Syria if it pursues a settlement with Israel.

The Administration was also said to be anxious to prevent the European Airbus consortium making further inroads in the Middle East.

Although Mr Christopher arrived in the region at the weekend, determined to re-

store Israeli-Syrian negotiations, he has appeared visibly disturbed by the spate of off-for-at attacks between Arabs and Jews and the harmful effect it is having on the Israel-PLO accord signed in Washington on September 13.

This spiralling violence simply must come to an end. The enemies of the peace process are trying to snuff out the hope that burned so brightly for peace here," Mr Christopher said after talks with Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister. "The Prime Minister and I are determined the enemies of peace will not succeed in this situation."

However, Mr Christopher's appeal for a return to the euphoria among Israelis and Palestinians in September seemed unlikely to carry much weight, particularly in Hebron, the burial site of the Old Testament patriarchs whose tombs are fought over each day by rival Jewish and Muslim worshippers.

"I am sure it will become very violent," said Orit Struck, 33, a mother of six, who lives in a small Jewish settlement in the centre of Hebron. "People like us who feel that they are not protected have to defend themselves. To do that we must scare the Arabs. If they are frightened, they will leave us alone. If they think we are weak, then they will keep on attacking us."

On a visit to Bonn, Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, urged Germany to increase its financial contribution to the future Palestinian state.



The former 'Lady Macbeth' in a festive light, showing off the White House Christmas decorations to the press

## First Lady in red says love is all

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER  
IN WASHINGTON

HILLARY Rodham Clinton has had more images than Elizabeth Taylor has had husbands. She was successively the ruthless Lady Macbeth, the cookie-baking mum and candidate's adoring wife, the aggressively feminist First Lady, the seeker of meaning in American life and the chilly social engineer.

Now, for Christmas, she is studiously presenting herself in the most startling light of all — soft and sentimental. Annie Leibovitz took warm and fuzzy photographs of her for the latest *Vogue*

and *Family Circle* photographed her banging a Christmas angel on a blue spruce. "We really love Christmas," she is said to have gushed. Then there was her Thanksgiving interview with *The Washington Post* in which she promised more White House fun, more partying and less policy in the holiday season. Last week, too, she lit the National Christmas Tree, and now she has opened the White House to show off its Christmas finery.

Dressed in bright red and wearing a stocking-shaped brooch, the First Lady took selected reporters on a guided tour of the 22 Christmas trees and 7,500

ornaments she has solicited from American craftsmen. These take a multitude of forms from a Clinton Jack-in-the-box with saxophone to an angelic president and guardian angel Hillary. The presidential pastry chef created a giant gingerbread White House covered in miniature cats — First Cat Socks depicted as a secret service agent or playing the saxophone.

"What's important about Christmas is the love you have and how you share that," said Mrs Clinton, who will return to full-time politics and ferocious battles over health care the moment the holiday is over.

## Chinese still talk business

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

DIPLOMATS from Britain and China discussed the practical details of the handover of Hong Kong to China yesterday, even though top-level negotiations between the two countries were plunged into crisis last week.

Relations froze when Chris Patten, Governor of Hong Kong, announced he was sending a Bill for limited democratic reform to the Hong Kong legislature and China's official media said the move killed any chance of a negotiated settlement of the handover in 1997.

However, yesterday's lower-level contacts within the Joint

Liaison Group were said to be "cordial and businesslike" by the British, while Ma Yuzhen, China's ambassador to London, said: "We do not want to see differences over Hong Kong affect our trade relations."

Mr Ma spoke as both sides began a regular three-day meeting in London of the liaison group. "Problems over the future of the colony are outside the control of business groups," Mr Ma said as he detailed road, rail, air and sea projects planned by China.

The Government wants to continue talks with Peking, but so far there has been no

response from the Chinese.

Dismissing voice: Wei Jingsheng, a leading dissident who served 15 years in jail for attacking Deng Xiaoping, has disclosed that he wrote from prison to the Chinese leader condemning Peking's rule in Tibet. Mr Wei told Mr Deng that "the director of this tragedy is none other than you".

Mr Wei's letter, in October last year, was a detailed refutation of Peking's contention that Tibet has always been a part of China, and he warned Mr Deng that his advisers were using "distortions to deceive you". Mr Wei was released last spring.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Pope is recovering from fall

Rome: Doctors allowed the Pope to take his right arm out of a sling after X-rays showed his injured shoulder was healing, the Vatican said yesterday. The Pope, 73, has begun physiotherapy.

The Pope partly fractured his shoulder joint last month when he fell down three steps during a public audience. He was forced to reduce his public appearances immediately after the accident but has now resumed an almost normal schedule. (Reuters)

#### Palermo blast

Rome: A huge explosion devastated the centre of Palermo, raising fears of a Mafia bomb attack, but the interior ministry pointed to a gas leak as the most likely cause. One person was slightly hurt. Two buildings, including the fire brigade headquarters, were badly damaged. (Reuters)

#### Hostage freed

Jolo, Philippines: Charles Walton, an American bible translator kidnapped on November 14 by Muslim guerrillas demanding the withdrawal of Christian missionaries, was freed here. He was tired but said he had not been harmed. (Reuters)

#### Prison scientist

Hobart: Rory Thompson, an Australian scientist declared insane after killing his wife, has won a patent from his prison cell for a way to see three-dimensional colour television. (Reuters)

#### Boys released

Rio de Janeiro: Two sons of a French businessman, aged eight and ten, who were kidnapped here on their way to school last week, returned home after being freed by their four captors. (Reuters)

#### Drink driving

Rabat: Two Spaniards drove a car in Spain's African enclave of Ceuta for three-quarters of a mile using about three gallons of gin for fuel and 44lb of ripe bananas as lubricating oil. (Reuters)

## Cancer woman 'paid her killer'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN NEW YORK

A WOMAN with breast cancer paid an 18-year-old to kill her and persuaded him to try again when his first attempt failed, police in Illinois said. The woman, Susan Potempa, 50, was found dead in her family home at Summit, Illinois, on November 26. She had been strangled and beaten with a blunt instrument.

The police have arrested Reginald Williams, unemployed, alleging that he was paid \$2,100 (£1,400) by Potempa to kill her. "She wanted to end her life because she was ill," Jack O'Malley, the State Attorney, said.

Police officers say Mr Williams killed Potempa at her request during the Thanksgiving weekend when her husband and son were away at a football game in Detroit. They allege he first tried to strangle her, but left her unconscious and alive.

Potempa, the police claim, recovered consciousness and climbed into her car to try to find her assailant. After asking various people where he was, she discovered him eating a hamburger at a local diner and urged him to return to her house and try again, the police say.

In the second attack Potempa was struck on the head with a heavy object, probably an electric drill, according to Mr O'Malley. Her body was discovered by her husband in the garage.

The dead woman had left notes in the house indicating that she had committed suicide, but a post-mortem examination proved she had been killed. Mr Williams attracted the attention of police after he bought a new car and stereo equipment for cash. They persuaded a friend of his to wear a hidden microphone and he was arrested last Saturday after police allegedly heard him describe the killing of Potempa and speak of the money he was paid.

The authorities believe the dead woman's family knew nothing about the alleged suicide-murder plot and say they have no idea how she came into contact with Mr Williams, who was on parole after being convicted of burglary.

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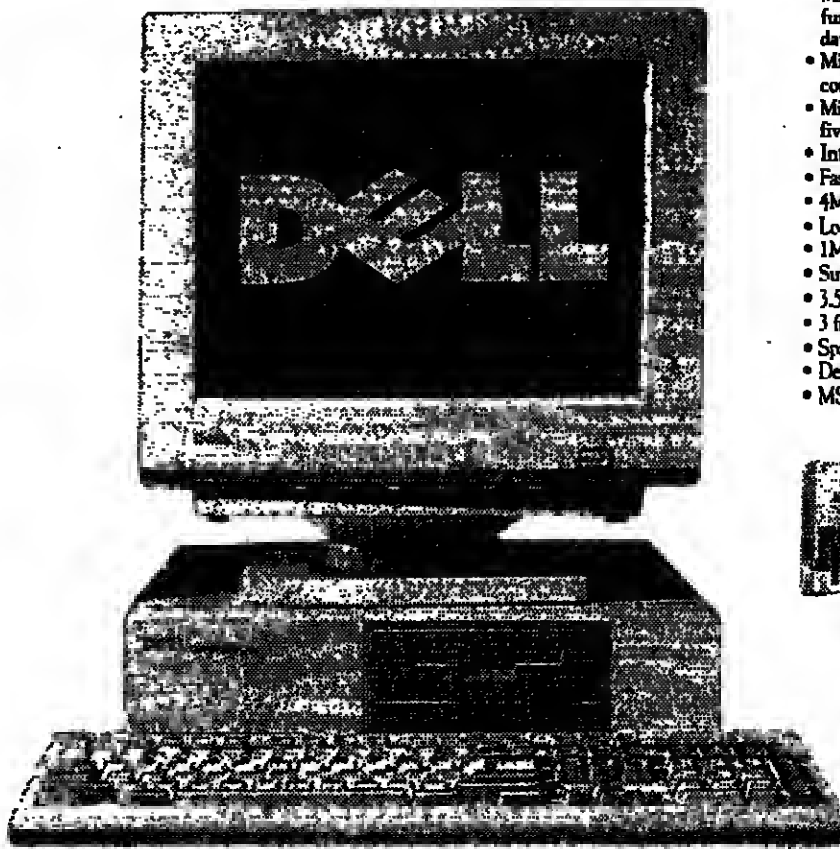
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# Hubble successes leave earthlings starry-eyed

By Nick Nuttall  
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE mission to repair the Hubble space telescope is surpassing all the expectations of Nasa and the European Space Agency. Each day sees a new piece of equipment almost flawlessly installed by Endeavour's seven-person crew.

Early yesterday Story Musgrave and Jeffrey Hoffman removed a camera the size of a baby grand piano and replaced it with an upgraded version containing a coin-sized mirror.

The improved wide field planetary camera, which cost approximately \$100 million (£67.5 million), will give astronomers near but panoramic views of the heavens. The additional mirror will help focus light on the camera by compensating for the telescope's flawed, primary mirror.

Mission control told the astronauts: "Every day it is becoming more and more like 'can you top this?'"

After the new camera was installed, Endeavour's 50 ft robot arm carried the two astronauts to the top of the four-storey telescope where they replaced two faulty magnetometers, devices that sense the Earth's magnetic field to help keep the

Peking. Planes and ships are forbidden from travelling directly between China and Taiwan, but experts say 6,000 unidentified flying objects have made the trip, the Xinhua news agency said. The first China-Taiwan UFO symposium finished in Peking with researchers concluding that UFO sightings deserved more scientific study. Xinhua said the latest sighting was on August 7, when two bat-like objects were reportedly seen over Taipei airport for 15 minutes. (Reuters)

Hubble telescope pointing towards the stars.

The successful progression of the 11-day mission, which yesterday reached the halfway stage, appears to be making the crew more relaxed.

"Do not forget Sox, I'm afraid of heights," quipped Dr Musgrave to Kenneth Bowersox, who was operating the robot arm from the shuttle cockpit.

Five out of the mission's seven main goals have now been achieved by the astronauts, including replacing faulty arrays, gyroscopes, fuses and electrical units. The main remaining goals are to install the key

corrective optics, and one of two electronic drives for the solar arrays.

Three out of five secondary goals, including replacing some fuse plugs and other electrical devices, have also been met. All that remains in this category is installing a new processor for Hubble's computer, and a switch for a device called the ultraviolet light detector.

Today Kathryn Thornton and Tom Akers, her fellow space walker, will leave Endeavour's air lock in the early hours of the morning for possibly the most crucial part of the mission. They are scheduled to slide out from the telescope's base a device called the high speed photometer and replace it with Costar, a £50 million telephone-kiosk sized unit.

Costar, built by Ball Aerospace of Boulder, Colorado, has tiny motorised mirrors which will refocus the light from Hubble's faulty main mirror onto several key instruments. Installing Costar is the main goal of the space agencies, and if this is achieved it will mean that Nasa can pronounce the Endeavour mission a complete success.

The final celebrations will come two months from now, after ground controllers have conducted fine-tuning of instruments using radio commands.



Dr Story Musgrave, who made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, dreams of a space ride with unknown beings

## Doctor in space waits for call from alien visitor

By Nick Nuttall, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE Dr Story Musgrave was replacing the wide-field planetary camera, half an eye was cocked on the horizon in case a disc-shaped craft hovered into view. The veteran astronaut firmly believes in aliens and tries to contact them on each mission.

"I've got nothing to lose. While I'm circling around out there I try whatever ways I can to get them to come down here and get me," said Dr Musgrave, 58, a surgeon who lists his hobbies as parachuting, scuba diving and literary criticism.

"You know, I'm a realist. The probabilities are incredibly slim. But the greatest thing that I could do is to have something come down out from there and go take a space ride with them," said Dr Musgrave, who dropped out of school in 1953 to join the Marines.

The astronaut, who joined Nasa in 1967 and made his first shuttle space walk ten years ago, admitted to being

terrified during the 17,000 mph lift-off into orbit. "You don't get a nice sound in there when it's 137 decibels. You shake, rattle and roll and I'm scared to death," he said during a recent trip to British Aerospace in Bristol to study the Hubble replacement solar arrays.

To distract him, Dr Musgrave wears a little mirror on his wrist which, he admitted, breaks Nasa rules. It allows him to look out of the shuttle's back window and see the flames pouring from the craft's booster rockets.

"It's incredible. You pick up the whole perimeter of the launch pad... and it's like a huge flashbulb going off," Dr Musgrave said.

He has flown on more shuttle missions than anyone else, but said that the pressures of the Hubble repair have been huge. Nevertheless, Dr Musgrave believed his surgical training had prepared him for the delicate manoeuvres.

## America admits to 252 secret nuclear tests

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

AS PART of the biggest declassification of secret Cold War military documents yet, the Clinton Administration admitted yesterday that America carried out 252 secret nuclear tests over a period of 30 years at its test site in Nevada and in the Pacific Ocean.

The number of secret tests is much larger than defence experts had previously estimated, and it accounts for about one fifth of the total nuclear tests undertaken. Of the secret explosions, 204 took place at the official test site in Nevada and the remainder in the Pacific. The last test took place in 1990.

The news was made public by Hazel O'Leary, the Energy Secretary, who said that the release of the test data was the start of a process to release hundreds of classified documents about America's nuclear weapons programme. Among the most controversial documents expected to be released at some stage are papers that include information on experiments on humans who were exposed to plutonium radiation more than 40 years ago.

"We are declassifying the

largest amount of information in the history of the Department of Energy," Ms O'Leary told a news conference. She promised that her department would in future be more forthcoming on meeting requests under the Freedom of Information Act, which allows Americans access to non-classified government documents.

The process had been discouraged by the previous Administration, whose policy it had been to release documents only after extensive, and frequently expensive, legal procedures.

Ms O'Leary said that the new policy was part of a process of "overhauling our Cold War policies". Her announcement came a day after President Clinton said he would consider a plan to de-target America's nuclear missiles away from installations in Russia and towards the oceans, in what amounts to yet another symbol of increasing détente in military relations between America and Russia.

Ms O'Leary said that the secret tests had been intended to mislead the Soviet Union about the nature and extent of America's nuclear weapons programme.

## Tiny riot in paradise hardly hurts 18

By Michael Binyon, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THERE is trouble in paradise. St Christopher and Nevis, idyllic Caribbean islands that are the stuff of tourist dreams, are under a state of emergency after rioting and disturbances provoked by recent general election results.

Imposed for three weeks by government decree last Thursday, the state of emergency is causing concern in Britain, which still has close relations with its former colony, better known as St Kitts. The Foreign Office, however, sees no reason for people to cancel holiday plans.

The trouble began after the general election at the end of last month left an inconclusive result. The People's Action Movement, the ruling party, won four seats in the tiny legislature. So did the main opposition Labour Party. The outgoing government of Dr Kennedy Simmonds, however, was able to count on the vote of the one member elected for the Nevis Reformation Party, whereas Labour could not enlist the support of the other two independents.

In the circumstances, Sir Clement Arrindell, the Governor, invited Dr Simmonds to continue in power. Labour supporters were dismayed because their party polled 2,000 more votes than the government. There were protests in Basseterre, the capital, which turned into scuffles. The government became alarmed, and a curfew was imposed.

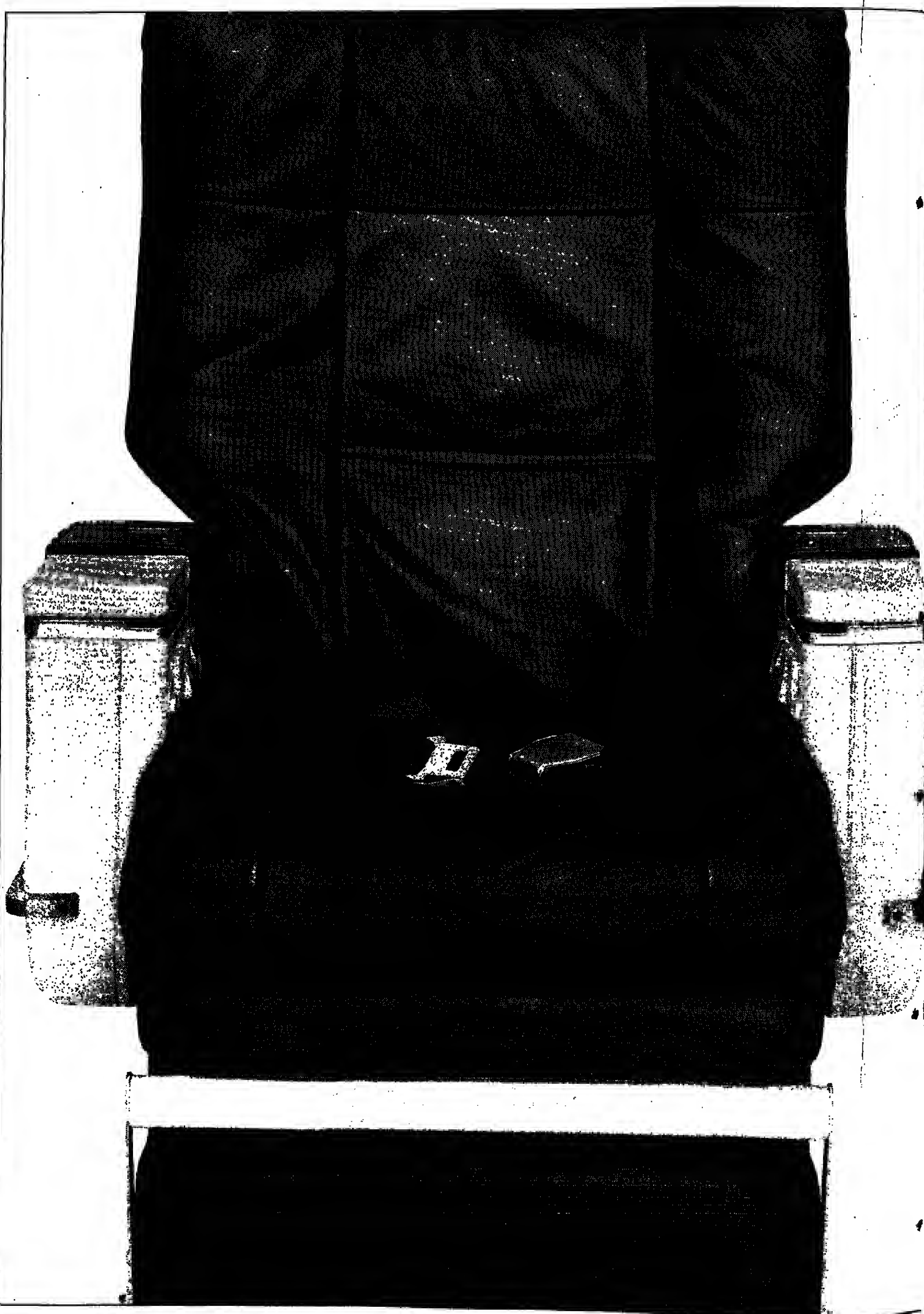
The colony appealed to

Barbados, the nearest big power, with which it is linked in a regional security agreement, for help in keeping order because its police were becoming exhausted. In the end, Barbadian sources report, help was not needed because the stone-throwing stopped in Basseterre.

The damage was hardly catastrophic. Some reports say 18 people received minor cuts and bruises; others say the worst that happened was a stone breaking the windscreen of a police car.

These are none the less serious incidents for an island group that still remembers the international excitement when Anguilla, bundled off into semi-independence with two neighbouring islands in 1967, raised the flag of revolt in 1969 and insisted on remaining a British colony. It took several British bobbies, some fine speeches at the United Nations and the bemused involvement of the world before Anguilla was allowed to go its own way.

To end the stalemate, Dr Simmonds has now decided to call new elections, which will probably be held in the next six months. Until then, and to see the two islands through the peak tourist season, an interim government may be set up drawing on the support of all the local politicians. Already the curfew has been reduced by an hour, now keeping people indoors from 9pm to 5am. Nobody expects anything more serious to upset the insular paradise.





# Blacks join ruling council amid white protest in Pretoria

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN  
IN CAPE TOWN

NEARLY 350 years of white rule officially began to end here yesterday when blacks for the first time achieved a say in executive decisions.

In the period leading to fully democratic government, a Transitional Executive Council (TEC) has come into being. The first action of its joint chairmen was to sign a letter to the International Monetary Fund asking for a loan of \$850 million (£565 million).

White extremists who believe the council represents a capitulation to black rule marked the day by seizing a fort used as a museum on the site of the monument to the Voortrekkers outside Pretoria. A dozen or so members of the Pretoria Boer Commando were armed with rifles, pistols and shotguns. They announced that they would stay until December 16, the Day of the Vow, perhaps the most significant anniversary in Afrikaner history.

A new all-race executive has come into being in South Africa. President De Klerk denied, however, that this symbolic moment heralded the end of white power.

The army yesterday sent a company of troops to take up position around the hill. Negotiations were later in progress.

Back in Cape Town, Cyril Ramaphosa, the secretary-general of the African National Congress, warned the government that it must not treat the council as a "toy telephone". He was in effect serving notice on the government that the black members of the council intend to push their authority to the limit.

President de Klerk later poured cold water on the idea that the council could act as an alternative government and denied that it marked the end of white rule. "Today is but another milestone on a long road," he said at his office in welcoming Baroness Chalker

of Wallasey, the Foreign Office Minister.

"It is an important day in the sense that, for the election process, it is fundamentally important that we get multi-party involvement in ensuring free and fair elections," he said. "But the government has not stopped governing and the TEC is not the new government of South Africa."

He denied that the government wanted to treat the council as a "toy telephone", but added that if Mr Ramaphosa wanted to build it "into an elephant and a tiger" he would do the country a disservice.

The council has in fact been established to "level the playing field", before next year's general election.



Cyril Ramaphosa, left, the ANC's representative on the Transitional Executive Council, being greeted by a fellow member at its first meeting in Cape Town yesterday as Colin Eglon of the Democratic Party looks on

## Africans lose a durable leader

BY SAM KILEY  
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

FELIX Houphouët-Boigny, Africa's longest-serving president, died yesterday in his home town, leaving a power vacuum that many fear may lead to ethnic violence in the Ivory Coast.

United Nations workers and expatriates have been stocking up on food and water and practising evacuation drills in anticipation of Mr Houphouët-Boigny's death. He had fought a long battle with prostate cancer.

Mr Houphouët-Boigny was thought to be aged 88, but his actual birthdate was unknown. He had spent 50 years at the head of the former French colony's politics and 33 years as president.

Ivory Coast has been held up as a model of economic success and stability in Africa, but Mr Houphouët-Boigny's refusal to name a successor raises the possibility of strife between ethnic rivals squabbling over the succession.

Alassane Ouattara, the Prime Minister, wept as he announced the president's death in a television address. "In these terrible hours for the country, we feel the sorrows of his family and we cry, all of us, with them, for our great, lost leader," he said.

Mr Houphouët-Boigny is likely to be buried in the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, built at crippling cost to the country, at Yamoussoukro, his birthplace.

Henri Konan-Bédié, the parliamentary Speaker, is considered favourite to succeed to the presidency. His biggest challenge comes from Mr Ouattara.

Obituary, page 19



Houphouët-Boigny: death leaves a power vacuum

## Banda back at the helm

Nairobi: Two months after undergoing surgery to drain water on his brain, President Banda of Malawi, who is believed to be in his mid-90s, was pronounced fit to return to work as head of state yesterday after a week of fighting between the army and his private vigilantes, the Young Pioneers (Sam Kiley writes).

The presidential council that has run Malawi while Dr Banda was ill has been dissolved.

## Tinseltown epic ends in \$2m award

FROM BEN MACINTYRE  
IN NEW YORK

THERE comes a moment in the life of most ageing Hollywood actresses when the party invitations stop arriving, the leading roles evaporate and even the plastic surgeons begin running out of options. At this moment there is only one surefire way to resurrect dwindling celebrity status: let the lawyers take over in multi-million-dollar law suits.

The long legal cat-fight between Zsa Zsa Gabor and Elke Sommer, one of the most public brawls ever witnessed in Hollywood, reached a finale this week. The Santa Monica supreme court was packed and all eyes were on the two leading ladies in this messy drama.

On Monday, a California jury ordered Ms Gabor and her husband, Frederick von Anhalt, to pay \$2 million (£1.3 million) in libel damages for wickedly describing Ms Sommer, 53, as a broke, balding, washed-up bar-fly. Specifically, the couple had told a German magazine and newspapers that Ms Sommer "looked like a 100-year-old grandmother", "had no hair on her head", "went to the sleaziest bars" and was now so far over the hill she "had to sell her sweaters for money".

Even by Tinseltown standards their comments were rather rude. The jury was due to meet again yesterday to decide on punitive damages, which could force Ms Gabor to sell her various properties and will no doubt lead to a year-jerking sequel to the present epic, just part of a nine-year feud between the actresses.

## Bhuttos tussle for party dominance

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

THE Bhutto family is providing a soap opera of intrigues, machinations and sibling hatreds seven weeks after Benazir Bhutto was elected Prime Minister of Pakistan. Their power battle involves mother, son and daughter.

Miss Bhutto, 40, on Sunday overthrew her mother

will not take her humiliation lightly. She responded by demanding the right to be lifetime chairman of the party founded by her late husband, Zulfikar Ali. "No-one can remove me," she said. "I was nominated for life by my husband. I will not allow anybody to bypass his decision."

A brother-sister feud has simmered for years. Begum Bhutto forced it into the open by supporting the return of her son, Murtaza, 43, after 16 years in exile. He was arrested on arrival at Karachi last month on terrorist charges stemming from activities against the martial law regime that hanged his father. He is in jail awaiting trial.

During the October general election campaign the begum campaigned against PPP candidates in favour of her son, who ran against them from his base abroad. In speeches broadcast from a telephone link, Mr Bhutto denounced the way his sister ran the party. He was defeated in the National Assembly seats he contested, but won a seat in the provincial assembly of Sindh, the Bhuttos' heartland. Soon afterwards he headed home. Miss Bhutto suspects her mother wants him to lead the party.



Begum Bhutto: ousted by her daughter

as co-chairman of the Pakistan People's Party, a family-dominated vehicle for their immense ambitions. The Bhuttos may not be the biggest or richest feudal landlords in Pakistan, but political power makes them the most important of the aristocratic clans.

Begum Nusrat Bhutto, 59, a formidable character,

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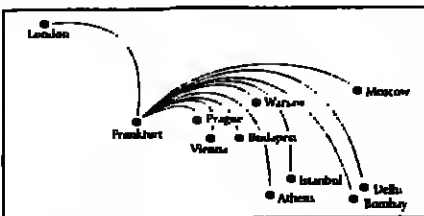
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The royal story that will not go away. Alan Hamilton on a secret bid to reconcile the warring couple



Portraits of two loveless marriages. A videotape of Madeleine Carroll with Ronald Colman (left) as the tragic Princess Flavia was sent to the Princess of Wales as a role model to encourage a reconciliation. The plan did not work

# Plots and the Princess

Friends who telephone the Princess of Wales, it is said, are enjoined not to address her down the wires as "Diana". Since the publication of the Squidgygate tapes last year, she has harboured the fear that someone somewhere with a garage full of gadgetry might be listening in.

Instead, personal callers address her by a variety of codenames, one of which—doubtless now changed to maintain security—was "Flavia", after the tragic Princess in Anthony Hope's 1894 novel *The Prisoner of Zenda*, who was treated with indifference and disdain by her husband but who dutifully endured her loveless marriage for the greater good of Ruritania.

It has emerged that friends of the Princess hatched a Ruritanian plot in the hope of steering her life in a happier direction, but that it was as romantic and hopeless as the plot of the novel. According to Sir David English, editor in chief of Associated Newspapers, writing in his *The Mail on Sunday*, the principal players were himself, Lord Palumbo, the outgoing chairman of the Arts Council whose wife Hayat inhabits the Princess's inner circle, and Sir Gordon Reece, the political adviser, another friend and supporter. They referred to themselves as the

Zenda group, and are said to have given the Princess a video of the 1937 Ronald Colman classic film version of the Hope novel.

Following discreet contacts with the Palace and government ministers, the Zenda group drew up a plan whereby, gradually and without so much as a sniff of publicity, the Prince and Princess would start to be seen together, first at public functions, then perhaps in the Queen's presence, and eventually on a foreign visit. The culmination would be a joint weekend or half-term holiday with their sons.

The Prince would return to live in Kensington Palace on one or two days a week, but senior media figures would be briefed that the couple were sharing neither bed nor quarters, and were still leading separate lives. But, the briefing would say, they had a mature appreciation of their royal duties and were pulling together for family and country. The Princess, anxious for some kind of reconciliation, was enthusiastic.

The plan was fated from the start by the opposition of the Prince who, it is claimed, wished no part in what he saw as a sham. The Princess, frustrated and angry, became ever more convinced that the whole Palace machine—with the notable exception of her opponents rather saw her as the victim of her own paranoia. But any suggestion of a plot by senior courtiers is improbable: their dedicated aim in life is to hold the royal show together, and to banish the Princess is to turn her

being blown out of the water when (in a distant echo of the Bishop of Bradford, Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson) the Archbishop of York, writing in *The Times* today, questions whether the Prince's private life makes him suitable for kingship and the supreme governor-

of the Church of England. The *Mail* group is implicated yet further. Two stories which have appeared in the rival *Sun* this week—one suggesting that the Queen wished the succession to pass directly to Prince William and another claiming that Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was opposed to Charles's accession—both had their origins

in an informal breakfast Dr Carey had with senior *Mail* executives last July. On that occasion, according to those present, Dr Carey was merely airing possibilities, and to suggest that he was conveying his own views is a gross distortion of the truth.

The Prince was reportedly furious at the way in which the Princess announced her withdrawal from public life on Friday, in a manner calculated to attract the maximum attention and sympathy. Since last year's separation he had been working hard to present his best side, and he entertained some hope that his personal life might fade from public view.

At the time of the formal separation last year, there was a belief in the Palace that coming clean on a failed marriage would lance the boil of fevered speculation, and that media interest in their joint private lives would decline. Some hope. The Princess has continued to enjoy as high a profile as ever, and until her dramatic announcement last week

appeared to do little to discourage it. Snatched photographs in a gym notwithstanding, to plead intolerable media intrusion as the sole reason for bowing out seems slightly disingenuous.

But the Prince's troubles are not over yet. The major shot in his public relations armoury is a television film and accompanying book being prepared by Jonathan Dimbleby, the broadcaster, to mark the 25th anniversary of the Prince's investiture at Caernarfon in 1969.

Three weeks before it is shown, Sidwick and Jackson plan to publish a book by the Princess's former nanny, Mary Clarke, who now lives in Portugal, which is said to contain many letters from the Princess detailing the misery of her marriage. It is unlikely to take the story much further than Andrew Morton's biography, *Diana: Her True Story*, but it will drag the whole sad tale before the public consciousness again.

Such was the success of *The Prisoner of Zenda* that Hope was obliged to write an equally popular sequel, in which Princess Flavia, dutiful to the last, became queen to a distant and loveless king. With reconciliation between the Prince and Princess of Wales seemingly entirely off the menu, life currently shows little hope of imitating art.



Princess Diana and the Prisoner of Zenda: a bid for Royal reconciliation

tions of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh—was plotting against her. Part of the plot was said to be the transfer of her favourite detective, Inspector Ken Wharfe, to other duties, but in that case she was a victim merely of a Metropolitan Police ruling which rotates personal protection officers every four years.

Her supporters blamed her

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- You can take your holiday(s) at any time to the end of December 1994, and you can choose any number of holidays, providing you have collected ten tokens per holiday.
- The 20 per cent discount will apply to any holiday featured with no restriction on price.
- When you have chosen your holiday, complete the relevant tour operator's booking form and send it with the required deposit and ten *Times* tokens to: *The Times* Travel Offer, Cox & Kings Travel, St James Court, Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6AF. Bookings must be received by February 20, 1994.
- The offer is subject to the terms and conditions published in *The Times* on November 18.

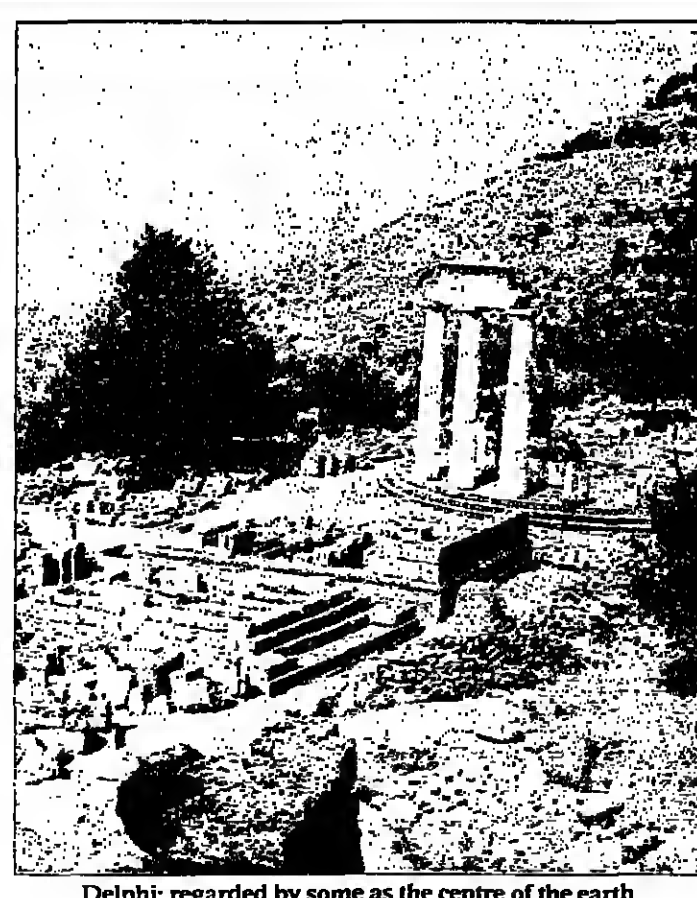
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Delphi: regarded by some as the centre of the earth

## Cruises for the curious

Venice is miraculous at any time. It is miraculous even, or perhaps especially, after an early morning departure from Gatwick nursing a mammoth hangover from an all-night party.

It was not the best way to begin a cruise, particularly a Swan Hellenic one which is far removed from a knees-up job with shipboard activities centred upon deck games and discos. This was to be an educational experience, with a full complement of historians, archaeologists and other academics to tell us about the places we would visit and what might have happened there centuries earlier. From Troy to Thucydides, from the Crusades to Gallipoli, it was to be a 14-day history lesson.

Having never been on a cruise before, I was a little apprehensive. However it soon became clear that nothing was compulsory. Instead of attending shipboard lectures, you could have them relayed to your cabin or ignore them altogether—although they were so good I seldom did that.

It was also a relief to recognise that, for the most part, my fellow passengers were good eggs, humorous and gregarious, interesting people with an interest in what they were seeing but

Enjoy a little culture and some serious wining, dining and relaxation

great dusty mosques of Istanbul. About turn and back across the Aegean, through clusters of islands to Athens, the penultimate day of the voyage spent amid the haunted ruins of Delos, the birthplace of Apollo.

In a fortnight we could hardly have hoped to see and learn more, interspersed with plenty of excellent browsing and strolling, and recovering from our sightseeing exertions on beautiful, secluded beaches. But perhaps my most poignant memory is of an evening in Dubrovnik which, even under its then communist rulers, was bright, lively and filled with good shops and restaurants.

After an excellent meal we were accosted by a complete stranger who asked us where we came from. On learning that we were English, he insisted that we come back to his house where he plied us with drink and protested, to an almost embarrassing degree, his love and admiration for Britain. As we sat on his balcony, looking down through the trees on the lovely old city, it would have been utterly impossible to foresee the murderous nightmare that was to overtake his country.

JOHN YOUNG

**TODAY'S FEATURED OPERATOR: SWAN HELLENIC**

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**THE ARTS OF IBERIA:** 15-day cruise from Nice to Spain and Portugal.  
Departs 15 July 1994, from £1224 down from £1530. Save from £306.

**AEGEAN STEPPING STONES II:** A one-week cruise visiting some of the prettiest islands in the Greek Aegean.  
Departs 24 August 1994, from £772 down from £955. Save from £183.

**AEGEAN STEPPING STONES II:** A second one-week summer cruise which combines opportunities for swimming in the clear waters of the Aegean with visits to historical sites.  
Departs 31 August 1994, from £772 down from £961. Save from £189.

**ANCIENT HOLY LANDS:** A late autumn cruise to the warm waters of the Red Sea (16 days) including visits to Jordan, Egypt and Israel.  
Departs 19 November 1994, from £1328 down from £1660. Save from £332.

**ARNEHMI, FROM £1320 (down from £1650). Save from £330.**

The following Nile cruises are on board the air-conditioned Nile Monarch, with accommodation for just 70 passengers.

**NILE CRUISE:** This 17-day cruise travels 600 miles, sailing the full navigable length of the Nile between Cairo and Aswan. Highlights include the tombs of Thebes, Cairo Museum and the Pyramids.  
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Departs 11 May 1994 (Basel-

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A: It applies to the specific departure date and tour offered by the operator. Any number of people booking together on one booking form, together with ten tokens attached, can take part in the offer. It includes any other supplements, including single room supplements, any other holiday insurance, car hire (except where car hire is part of the specific tour offered by the operator), special excursions, amendments, surcharges, visas or cancellation charges.

**Q: What happens if I miss or lose a token?**  
A: We will be publishing a total of 21 tokens and backdated copies will be accepted (though photocopies will not be accepted). So you should be able to catch up.

**Q: Do I have to take any specific insurance?**  
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**Q: Are the operators bonded?**  
A: Yes, all the operators featured in this offer are bonded and have complied with the financial bonding requirements of the Civil Aviation Authority or the Passenger Shipping Association. This means that you will be repatriated/refunded in the unlikely event of the operators' insolvency.

هكذا من الأصل



# Last laugh for Les at the abbey

Les Dawson, comic, is to join the great and the good remembered in a service at Westminster Abbey, James Bredin writes

It is announced in *The Times* today that there will be a memorial service at Westminster Abbey for Les Dawson, comedian, who died in June.

Abbey memorial services are no longer confined to royalty, senior parliamentarians, high achievers in the arts, field marshals and other such eminences. Last summer there was a service at the abbey in memory of Bobby Moore, OBE, captain of the English World Cup winning team in 1966 (he was capped 108 times) and West Ham United. The Dean of Westminster, the Michael Mayne, who conducted the service, says that Moore was a great national figure who excelled in a great national sport and I thought it right that such greatness should be recognised here. He had made a distinguished contribution to the life of the nation.

All memorial services are services of thanksgiving and, these days, are usually cheerful and heartening rather than sad and mournful. Mr Mayne sees them as "public affirmations of the uniqueness and the value of the deceased's life. The death may have left a feeling of unfinished business. The service can bring a welcome sense of completion. There should be a penitential note. If the gap between the funeral and the memorial service is long enough — it should be some months rather than weeks — then there is time to see the life in perspective."

The dean believes that "good liturgy is also good theatre". All church services are, in some degree, productions. Westminster Abbey services are near-miracles of solemnity, timing, protocol and unobtrusive professionalism.

The professional organisers are led by the Receiver-General, Rear Admiral Kenneth Snow, CB, whose title is ancient and peculiar and conceals the fact that he is the chief administrator of the abbey. He could be described as its chief executive and company secretary. ("I've also been called a jumped-up bursar.") The Receiver-General defers to the dean's ministry but his responsibility is to face the financial realities. For him an abbey memorial service means he has to close the abbey to tourists for half a day, losing up to £10,000.

With three assistant receivers-

general (for administration, finance and protocol) Admiral Snow makes the arrangements for all special services of which, in an average year, eight will be memorial services. The abbey does not suggest that there will be a memorial service for anyone. The dean and his colleagues consider and react to suggestions put to them by institutions or individuals.

At a first introductory and preparatory meeting with the chief mourner, Admiral Snow outlines in reassuring detail what is involved in an abbey service. The chief mourner goes away to consult the family and, perhaps, a friendly priest about the choice of hymns and prayers, who should read the lessons, whether the service should be at the abbey or at the smaller St Margaret's next door. The abbey takes up to 1,900 people and will cost about £5,000. St Margaret's accommodates up to 650 and costs about £3,000.

A later, more formal, meeting chaired by the dean is held in the Jerusalem Chamber, the large room in the deanery in which Henry IV died in 1413, where final decisions are made.

The abbey's most theatrical service in recent years was for Laurence Olivier in 1989. The minutes of the planning meeting for it ran to 21 pages. Among the decisions taken was that Patrick Garland, artistic director of the Chichester Festival Theatre, would co-ordinate and direct the non-liturgical parts of the service.

As a result, on the day, symbols of Olivier's life and work were carried in procession to the High Altar by Douglas Fairbanks Jr, Michael Caine, Maggie Smith, Paul Scofield, Derek Jacobi, Ian McKellen, Dorothy Tutin and Frank Finlay. The symbols included the crowns Olivier wore in the film of *Richard III* and in the television production of *King Lear*; the script used in the film of *Hamlet*; and the insignia of Olivier's Order of Merit. John Gielgud read Donne's "Death be not proud" and Alec Guinness gave the address. And, to the dismay of some, the recorded voice of Olivier was heard reading from Henry V.

In contrast, memorial services at



Les Dawson, who died in June, follows Bobby Moore as a people's choice for a memorial service

St James's, Piccadilly, are less grand. The rector, Donald Reeves, likes to meet the family two or three times after the funeral to plan the service. "I help them to mourn but the meetings make it possible for me to tell them when the mourning should stop."

At his very impressive service in thanksgiving for the life of Dame Freya Stark in September extracts from her books were read with proper relish by John Julius Norwich; travel writer Colin Thubron gave an address of high literary merit and only very occasionally needed to look down at his notes; and, throughout the service, a handsome, sculpted head of Dame Freya, set on a pedestal by the

lectern, gazed out at the congregation. She seemed much pleased by all that she saw and heard.

When the BBC arranges memorial services — about five a year — they are organised by Sir Roger Cary, BT. He is a consultant to the Director General and an ex-producer who modestly regards himself as "an enabler exercising tact and humility". The professionals, he says, "are the royal family, the abbey and St Paul's. I do what they say."

The service, as a BBC occasion, "must be something of a show, professionally conducted". Organisers of memorial services (and of funerals) are most likely to get it right if the deceased have the foresight and consideration to say

in advance what their wishes are. Peter Fleming, traveller, author, contributor to *The Times* and *Strix* of *The Spectator*, put ten clear instructions on one sheet of paper four years before he died in 1971. When, after his death, the envelope was opened, it was found that the first instruction read: "Unless lost at sea or otherwise unavailable I would like to be buried at St Bartholomew's, Nettlebed." The seventh was: "The question of a Memorial Service I leave to my family."

Later he added a helpful note saying: "If there is a memorial service, I would like it to be at the Guards Chapel, the parking facilities are unrivalled."

## Dangers of a 12-hour day

So glad to hear the Treasury is doing its bit for family values. The Treasury circle, the Permanent Secretary, Sir Terry Burns, has for the time being assumed a costly human shape and instructed the troops to stop working so hard and start getting themselves home at a decent hour. The man deserves a viscountcy, at least.

Don't misunderstand me. I'm not being facetious. Nor am I simply reflecting the views of those in business and industry who reckon there could be no greater boost to the economy than short-time working, or preferably a complete shutdown, at HM Treasury.

I am just keen to see Sir Terry given his due for recognising that workaholicism is every bit as prevalent and every bit as injurious to civilisation as, say, absenteeism or alcoholism.

You and I, being persons of average idleness and middling ambition, might have not the slightest difficulty complying with Sir Terry's instruction. But how likely are we, in the nose-to-grindstone Nineties, to find ourselves working for somebody who would issue an edict like that? For all the talk of the New Man (more accurately described as Weekend New Man), what chance has he who gets home in time to put the baby to bed of rising in any organisation these days? No, the average boss now is a man or woman who knows it is safe to say to any valued employee who has just asked to go home early: "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen." There ain't no cooler kitchen to go to, so if the boss stays late, you stay late, too.

Even the Jobsworths have started turning into Stakhanovites. It is easy to see how the Treasury developed its culture of macho workaholicism. All those who go there and aspire to become senior officials regard themselves as frightfully clever, and frightfully diligent, and it is vital for their progress that everybody else sees them in the same light. The simplest way to demonstrate both qualities is to stay late in the office, producing endless documents for ministers which make a mockery of the term "briefing".

First one home's a cissy — and that goes as much for the 45 per cent of women who work there as for the 55 per cent of men who set the tone.

Eventually, since a few people there are as clever as they think they are, it was noticed that these elephantine briefings were a waste of everybody's time. For the Budget before this one, for example, the briefing notes occupied two volumes so heavy that the official responsible for getting them over to the House nearly did his back in. Needless to say, he had put in an awful lot of extra hours tagging key pages so he could find the information he might be asked for, but he was

asked for none of it. Of course he wasn't, since it was all the detailed stuff that nobody thinks to ask until they have had a week to digest the Budget, but officials had bungled it all in just in case. In such ways the Treasury learnt the error in time to stop the briefing notes for last week's combined Budget plus public spending announcement requiring a pantechonicon.

It seems that long hours become addictive in the same way as the adrenalin high of aerobic exercise. I've never been addicted to either, but a hard-driven commercial lawyer I know tells me it is the same drug. "You get hooked," she said, "and it's a terrible habit to get into, because once you develop the stamina to start at eight and keep going, negotiating and redrafting takeover documents until two in the morning, day after day, you start thinking the rest of the world is shirking."

She is a sensible woman, this lawyer, but even she couldn't resist an involuntary sniff when I said the Treasury was concerned to find so many of its staff working 11-hour days. Eleven hours? You'll find plenty of lawyers and merchant bankers who, however ready they are to admit that their own working days are crazy, secretly look down on those who work a mere 11 hours as amateurs.

Part of the point of the Treasury exercise is to help women with family commitments get to the top. So far only 7 per cent have done so, and although one woman working a four-day week has risen to Under Secretary rank, I dread to think of the hours that go into those days. Senior professional women are still, in general, too few and too driven to have given up what I think of as the school prefect syndrome; this involves letting the new girls know that you went through hell to get where you are, and now it's their turn.

Thus, the culture perpetuates itself, and women go on trying to prove themselves by working harder than men who are already putting in ridiculous hours for no better reason than addiction.

We used to kid ourselves that only Japanese businessmen went in for this unbalanced sort of existence, and then it was Americans. Now it's us. The sentiments involved are not, actually, so very far from those expressed by one of the three idlers in Jerome K. Jerome's boat: "I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours. I love to keep it by me: the idea of getting rid of it nearly breaks my heart." Especially, perhaps, the idea of getting rid of it fast enough to catch the train that will get you home in time for a bedtime tantrum from a jammy-fingered ruffian. He looks so much better as you usually see him, sound asleep.



MARGOT NORMAN

Today's tearaway toffs are following in a long and ignoble aristocratic tradition

## Cads who blow a fortune

THE Marquess of Bristol spent his first day in jail yesterday, at the start of a ten-month sentence for possessing heroin and cocaine. Ickworth, the stately home in Suffolk that his family has occupied since the 15th century, is to be sold to the National Trust to meet the debts of a man once

said to be worth £20 million. Bristol's tale has a depressing sense of *déjà vu*. Not a month, it seems, goes by without another tale of the evil antics of the upper classes. A

Martian making a study of the British aristocracy could easily be forgiven for imagining that anyone could become a peer of the realm, provided they possessed the following requirements: an addiction to hard drugs, several driving bans for speeding, a failed marriage and a loveless childhood.

The misdeeds of tearaway toffs such as Viscount Mandeville, who offered to sell his title for a six-figure sum, or the miscreant's miscreant, Lord Blandford, are meat and drink to every advocate of the classless society. "These fellows are the best reason imaginable for abolishing the House of Lords," said one peer, who asked to be nameless. "Whenever I read about their latest trick, I always expect to look out of the window and see the village erecting a guillotine in my grounds."

THE concept of the dastardly peer is as ancient as the tale of Bluebeard. "There have always been Lord Bristols right through history," says John Grigg, the historian and constitutional expert. "The privileged going to the bad is the stuff of novels." Think of the 4th Earl Ferrers, who was hanged for murdering his steward, or the 7th Earl of Pembroke, who committed a score of murders but was brought to trial only twice for assault, or the 3rd Marquess of Waterford, who put aniseed on the hooves of a parson's horse before hunting him down with bloodhounds. Drink-driving pales in comparison.

The Bristol family, in particular, has a long pedigree of villainy. The current marquess's father served three years for his part in a Mayfair

jewellery theft during the 1930s.

Another member of the same dynasty was described by Alexander Pope as "that milk-white curd of asses' milk" addicted to "that detestable and poisonous plant tea, which once brought him to death's door". The countess of the 3rd earl was tried for bigamy in addition to being accused of holding up a bank-



A family tradition: the Marquess of Bristol

er at gunpoint in Rome, while of the 4th earl it was said: "His ambition and his lust alone can get the better of his avarice."

Blandford's lineage, despite containing such paragons as the Duke of Marlborough and Winston Churchill, shows even more telling signs that breeding will out. The Churchill family motto is Faithful but Unfortunate and Gladstone famously observed in 1882 that: "There never was a Churchill, from John of Marlborough, that had either morals or principles."

Jonathan Swift said the first duke was "as covetous as hell", the 6th duke was involved in a court case "gravely

reflecting on his moral character" and the "wicked" 8th duke sold off Blenheim's treasures in the 1890s.

It could be argued that by perpetuating such misbehaviour, Blandford and his chums are merely carrying on in true aristocratic style. Certainly the marquess is aware of his heritage. "One has to live dangerously, otherwise life would be so maulin. Of course I'm not going to give myself up, we are a family of winners not losers. I will do like my great ancestors would have done," he told a reporter in June, while on the run.

INDEED, the clean-living majority of British toffs are so low key as to be virtually unnoticeable. The Duke of Westminster, the richest man in the land, leads an exemplary life, working a ten-hour day and has announced he will send his son to the local school. Earl Spencer is leading a blameless existence as a television commentator. Lord Lichfield is a photographer, his sister, Lady Elizabeth Anson, a professional party planner. Even Prince Edward is now running a television production company. Every year the debts at Queen Charlotte's Ball tell us they are doing this for mummy and their real ambition is to become an ophthalmic optician in Grimsby.

The aristocracy may have lost its glamour, but it is not yet a spent force, according to Grigg. "The political clout of the landowning classes is certainly much diminished, but there are still a lot of big estates in existence with owners who remain quite active locally and are doing quite a lot of good there. It's a humdrum business being an aristocrat these days."

JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

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## Alan Coren



**■ Please Michael, stick to your guns. The rank and file are right behind you**

I blame myself. I know this Government by now. I know that it wakes up every morning with a wonderful new idea. I know that over the boiled egg its wife murmurs, 'Coo, beloved, what a wonderful idea. I know that it gets into its car and is reassured by its driver about the new idea. I know that it tells everyone about its idea all morning, and they all go, 'Oh yes, wow, my word, that is a corker and no mistake, so it announces its wonderful new idea, and then the Government goes away and has a bit of a think, and pretty soon it is tinkering with the idea and soon after that the idea is all over and there is nothing for it but to hit the sack and come up with another wonderful new idea for the next morning, so you can see why I blame myself.

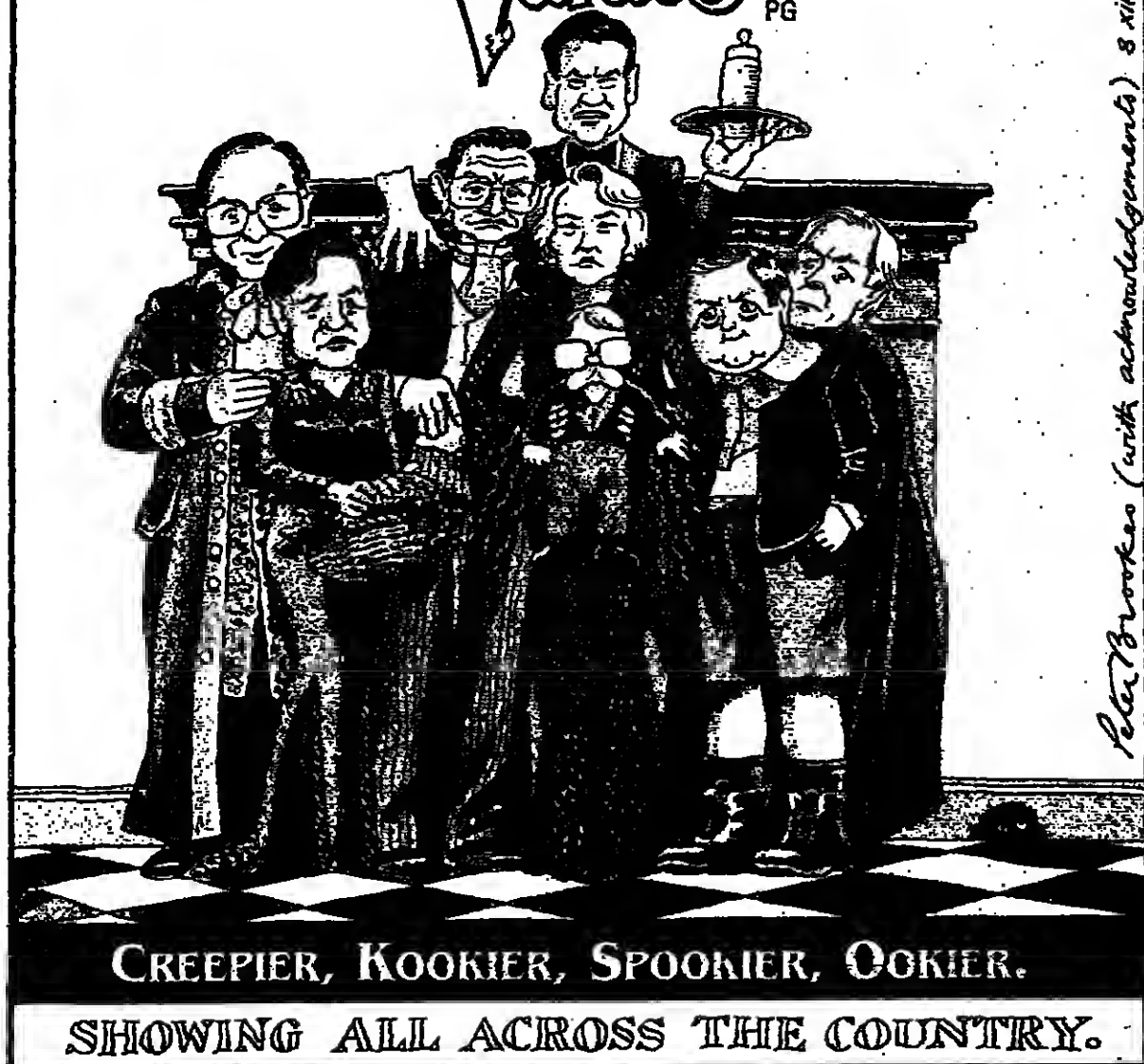
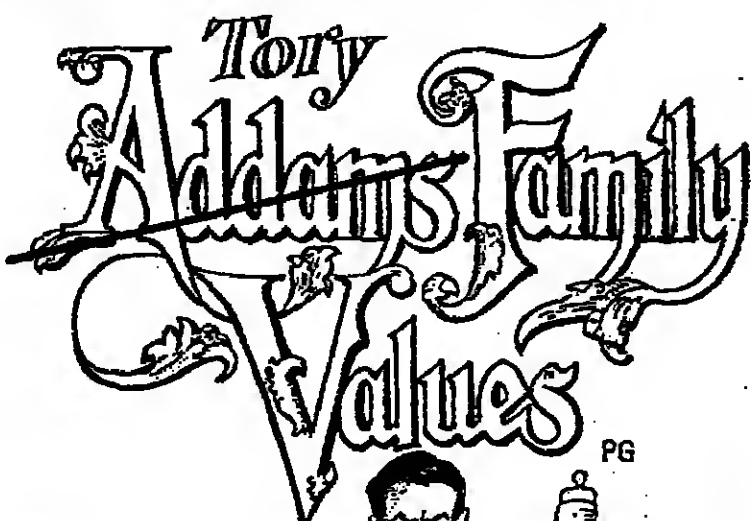
Because, early last week, I was sitting opposite the Home Secretary at dinner, engaged in the innocent social commerce of persiflage and quip, and all the time the spare capacity of that remarkable brain was cobbling together the next day's wonderful new government idea, for it was his turn; and although I didn't know it was his turn, I might have made a smart guess, since he hadn't announced one for at least a week and the next morning there it was, and the next evening there it wasn't, and if I only had asked him whether he had a wonderful new idea, I could have dragged him from our host's table to the cupboard under the stairs and told him how to make the new idea, for once, work. Instead of allowing it to go off at half-cock as a flash in the pan, and if you think two ballistic clichés are a bit much, even for me, let me defend their aptness on the ground that we know a bit about musketry, in the 17th/21st Crickwood Volunteers.

Yes, that is the wonderful new idea it is, or was, before it became the terrible old idea. It was announced the following day as Mr Howard's plan for organised street patrols, and hardly were the words out before my exhilarated neighbours and I were on the mutual blower, discussing the relative merits of knoberry and pick-handle, was it better to have hard hats for safety or black balaclavas for terror, should we march mob-handed down the middle of the roads or skulk the hedges in covert threat, how many did karate, who knew semaphore, could we muster enough mountain bikes for a decent cavalry unit, where could we get a bull-horn, an Aldis lamp, a Mace spray, a Rottie?

But hardly had we rung off and gone our several ways to make our delegated enquiries in preparation for that evening's inaugural motor before the Home Secretary's nervous temporising started. Under pressure from senior coppers, caring wets, Opposition timeservers, and moaning media minnies of every sort, the climbdown began: not only could patrols not bear arms, they were not even to be allowed uniforms (I, ever the traditionalist, was already at work on a fetching combination of jodhpurs and epaulettes flak-jackets, particularly after the bloke next door had put in a claim for black Lycra which might easily have misled civilians into thinking we were merely delivering Milk Tray), and as for our giving suspects a bloody good hiding and manhandling them (or, more sensibly, vice-versa), this was totally out of order. All a patrol could do was mince about with poseurphases and, on spotting something suspicious, ring Plod, who, when he had finished his jam-roll, would amble round and take down a statement for subsequent typing and filing.

Oh, would that I had had the nous to buttonhole Michael when I had the chance! For he does not have the first inkling of the mood out here in the suburbs, where his core electorate grows more fugitive by the hour not simply because his Government does either nothing well or everything badly, but because whatever is done is done so ineffectually. We are disaffected because we are bored, and last week, a banner began to unfurl behind which we would have been thrilled to march, and then it was furled again. It is not that we want justice, or even revenge, we just want to have fun, we want to form fours and whistle Tipperary in descent to our rhythmic hobnobs, to make big naps and stick little coloured flags in them, to honk Klaxons, vault fences and flash big torches, to defile one another over enamelled mugs of rummy tea. In short, a bit of National Service would do us the world of good.

## THE FAMILY'S GETTING A LITTLE STRANGER THIS CHRISTMAS.



After three fiascos in foreign affairs, Clinton is rebuilding his presidency on three negotiated successes

Some time ago, a European foreign minister politely asked the American Secretary of State for news of his "policy". The creature had not yet been seen in public. There were some who doubted its birth. "My policy," said Warren Christopher unconvincingly, "is to support my president's domestic agenda."

Since then, Mr Christopher has been as good as his word. He has tested to destruction the theory that a secretary of state need not be charismatic to be effective. But the policy to which he referred is at least moving out of incubation. It has even been seen cradled in the President's arms.

Any visitor to Washington is made aware that Mr Christopher was not joking. There are too many signs of a job-bonus decline and fall at the heart of the new world empire for that. Foreign policy is not central to the Clinton presidency. What is central is the search for social and economic order at home.

Yet ask those close to Bill Clinton to name what are called the "three thorns" of his first year of office and they reel off Bosnia, Somalia and Haiti. Foreign policy may not be central, but it is televisual. When it goes right, as George Bush found in Kuwait, popularity soars. When it goes wrong, as Mr Clinton found in Somalia in October, popularity plummets. Home-based troubles are drawn out, and intractable. Foreign ones are instant, offering death or glory on the nail.

In November 1992, Mr Clinton boasted that his foreign policy, unlike that of President Bush, would be based on a "disciplined, aggressive approach" which would help him avoid spending all his time "waiting for a problem to explode". There would be clear criteria for foreign intervention. After Cold War would come hot peace. A year on, there is no such plan, though a draft is waiting

between the State department and the White House. Instead the President finds himself plagued by the same crisis management he promised to avoid. America was supposed to get out of Somalia long ago. It is still there. To Bosnia's emissaries Mr Clinton promised air attacks on Serbia and a lifting of the arms embargo. He has delivered neither. To Haiti's oppressed citizens he promised the return of democracy. He backed off at the first sign of trouble. Mr Clinton is now said to be a wiser man.

The year 1993 has seen American policy race through the complete Hegelian sequence of thesis, anti-thesis and (possibly) synthesis. From Cold War to new world order was easy. Having led the triumph over communism, America offered the planet its military and moral supremacy. The role of world policeman was for the taking. After Kuwait, American muscles bulged beneath the blue uniform of the United Nations. The UN underwent a media apotheosis. Now surely the world would behave.

That was way back in the mists of time, the start of 1993. The world has refused to behave. It has run riot. There are 35 wars, give or take a dozen, classified by the UN. Warlords say boo to the American goose. The anti-thesis was shored. Where now is the synthesis?

Unless my eyes are deceiving me, I think I can at last discern one emerging from the Washington fog. There is substance in the "three thorns" to set beside the three thorns: the Pacific-rim conference in Seattle, the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta), and this week's hoped-for completion of Gatt.

These are the real symbols of the President's new strategy: after military security must come world economic security. American growth over the past two years far outstripped Europe's. The engine of this growth has been trade with the Americas and with the Far East. Mr Clinton knows that promoting this trade is the key to finding more jobs for Americans. He has changed his mind here. As Prince Hal he may have flattered the protectionist lobbies that besieged the Democratic Party during the campaign; but today he turns them away with a curt, "Assume that I am the thing I was". Experience of both Nafta and Gatt has convinced him that this is a crusade in which America must take a lead. Nafta/Gatt is the new Nato.

Yet economic diplomacy shifts attention away from the regions of nuclear diplomacy. Diplomats may say to worried Europeans that "more attention to the Pacific does not mean less to the Atlantic"; realists say this is rubbish. Growth in transatlantic trade now exceeds transatlantic growth. China's economy has grown 15 per cent in each of the past two years. This is where American investment is booming.

Next month, Mr Clinton begins the first of three visits to Europe in 1994. He has made some European friends. Notably with the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, but relations with France remain Gatt-locked. Relations with John Major are cool, not just because of the apparent partisanship towards Mr

## Questions of both Church and State

George Austin, Archdeacon of York, asks if Charles can be trusted again

Ten years ago, Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer exchanged their solemn vows before God in their fairy-tale wedding, promising lifelong faithfulness to one another. It was a fairy-tale which, as we now know, quickly went sour. If the stories are true (and they have never been denied, as surely they would have been false, if only for the sake of the Parker-Bowles family), then Charles quickly began to break these vows, and did so persistently until the separation a year ago. There is nothing uncommon in this in the 1990s, and for that matter it is nothing new in the history of the monarchy.

One king prevented his wife from entering Westminster Abbey for his coronation, and another went to meet his Maker with mistress and wife by the death-bed.

At his coronation, Charles would again be asked to make solemn vows to God to be faithful to his calling as monarch. The question certainly needs at least to be asked (if only now because the matter has been brought into the public domain by media stories, now denied, of comments by the Archbishop of Canterbury): if his attitude to his vows of matrimony was so cavalier, has he the right to be trusted in this second solemnity? The answer of course may be that the nation would trust him to do this, that attitudes to morality — and to matrimony — have so changed that the idea of fidelity is outdated.

Even the Church no longer speaks with the same authority or unanimity it enjoyed, say, at the abdication crisis in 1936. But trust, once broken, is hard to restore, though at a coronation service an Archbishop of Canterbury would be required to assume it. Even if the Church were to change its fairly right attitude to remarriage after divorce, it would not be likely to give blanket approval. There would be conditions, and certainly grave doubts if an adulterous relationship had begun almost before the honeymoon was over.

Of course for the Christian there is always the possibility of repentance and forgiveness. No sin is too great to be

redeemed. If the heir to the throne is an adulterer, then God would fully meet his penitence. But there is still a price to pay for those in public life. If I, as Archdeacon of York, fiddled the books or cheated on my wife, penitence for my acts would lead to redemption, but I would feel duty-bound to resign from my archdeaconry because I would have betrayed the trust people had put in me. It may be that Prince Charles has gone too far for that same trust to be restored.

Of course there is no vacancy at present, and if the Queen follows her mother's longevity, Charles will be well

into his seventies before he succeeds. Time may have healed wounds, or have persuaded him that the monarchy could well jump a generation. If there were to be a reconciliation between the Prince and Princess, we would be in a new situation. Marriages do pass through difficulties, and the strength of a good one is gained because the partners have worked at making it so.

But accession to the throne is not the only problem. The monarch is Supreme Governor of the Church of England, and on moving appointments the clergy must declare an oath of allegiance to the Queen. If a divorced Charles — or worse, a divorced and remarried Charles — were king, it would raise serious problems for many of the more traditional clergy in swearing their allegiance. There is a deeper question here, about the relevance in any event of such a requirement on the clergy.

Its origins lie in the 16th century, when pope and king were in conflict for the loyalty of both Church and nation. To demand what was in effect an oath of obedience from the clergy was to enforce their own theological and political loyalty. The relevance of this today in either Church or State is obscure, to say the least. Perhaps there is a heaven-sent opportunity in the present controversy to remove it altogether. But more to the point, it gives Prince Charles a chance to recognise that his behaviour raises questions not only about his own role but about the monarchy's very survival.

**The Prince may have forfeited our trust already**

## Trade before policy

Simon Jenkins

The brief spat with China over human rights in Seattle was sincere but not significant. Nor is Mr Clinton's new China policy merely commercial. Korea is the new horror threatening to test his crisis management: a million troops ready to rerun the Korean war. Washington needs Peking's help as a restraining hand and needs it badly.

And Europe? Europe is seen in Washington as either complacent or a mess. At very least it can be taken for granted. The foreign ministries of Europe may have watched Mr Clinton flounder in his early days with some smugness. But Europe's Maastricht introversion while Yugoslavia burned will not be forgotten. Its petty protectionism is still plaguing Gatt. Its reluctance to trade with former communist states retards their recovery. Last week at the Nalo's summit, America studiously supported Russia in its reluctance to see Nato members advancing right to its borders. If the former Warsaw-pact countries are so worried about Russia as to want to become full members of Nato, Western Europe can calm them down. America's Europe policy now centres on Russia. Russian democracy and internal security are the priority.

Next month, Mr Clinton begins the first of three visits to Europe in 1994. He has made some European friends. Notably with the German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, but relations with France remain Gatt-locked. Relations with John Major are cool, not just because of the apparent partisanship towards Mr

Bush at the election, but also because of Mr Major's excuse for not supporting Mr Clinton over Bosnia: that he "could not sustain his government" if he did so. It was not an excuse Washington heard from Lady Thatcher.

But Europe will have cards to play. As yet another American President inches his way along the learning curve, ever more questions will be asked. What is meant by Mr Christopher's new "partnership for peace" under Nato? Where stand the old guarantees, the nuclear umbrella, the long-term commitment of American troops in Europe? As for that campaign promise of a clear plan for intervention, total confusion reigns — or at least total public confusion.

That opinion, say the cynics, is like the Duke of York. Television and the press march the marines up to the top of the interventionist hill, watch a few get shot and promptly marches them down again. America says it has no intention of staging another Somali intervention, for instance in Angola or Armenia. Somalia has led Mr Clinton to retreat even from his commitment to send 20,000 "peacekeepers" to the former Yugoslavia. But does that mean America will never intervene anywhere? How might a South Korean, let alone a Pole or an Estonian, feel just now? Must they be starving before CNN calls in the marines? Or merely threatened? Or must "American interests" be threatened too? The new diplomacy of world trade leaves these questions hanging.

I believe no American President can prevent foreign affairs dominating his life. Even without a Cold War, Mr Clinton is still condemned to trial by overseas emergencies. By these drumbeats does the world judge his firmness of purpose. Their rhythm is at least familiar. But their message is still uncertain.

## Peer group pressure

MANY PEERS will be eminently qualified to debate the Government's tough anti-crime measures. There are the law lords, of course... and then there are those, such as the Marquess of Bristol, who have committed felonies of their own.

These peers aside, one of the chamber's regular attenders, the hereditary peer Lord Monckswell, may very soon see the system operating at first hand. He faces a charge of grievous bodily harm after an incident involving a two-foot spanner and his girlfriend's male psychotherapist at a Manchester clinic. Committal proceedings will be held on December 20.

The former factory worker and hard-left Manchester councillor was charged in October under his plebeian name of Gerry Collier, aged 46, of Barlow Moor Road, Chorlton.

After checking with the Lords' authorities, Monckswell has been assured that, if found guilty, he will not be barred from his duties on Labour's

backbenches. Only aliens, bankrupts, traitors and juveniles are disqualified.

"My intention is to continue in the House of Lords," he declares, although he remains dedicated to abolishing the



place. Monckswell has already entered Westminster folklore for admitting a group of lesbians into a privileged gallery five years ago. They promptly absented into the chamber.

Lord Renton, the former MP for Huntingdon, clearly

doesn't share his successor's ideal of a classless society. Spotting a well-heeled lady arrive at a London reception this week for his charity, the Renton Foundation, the old boy trembled with excitement. "A duke's daughter... and a good duke at that," he muttered — before rushing to embrace her.

## Spare acres

NOBODY was more astonished yesterday by the sorry tale of the Marquess of Bristol and his prison sentence than the National Trust, which owns Ickworth House, his family home in Suffolk, and its 1,500 acres.

For press reports of the trial on Monday misguidedly suggested that the National Trust was about to fork out £2 million for the remainder of Ickworth's 4,000 acres, to help bail out the 39-year-old classic car enthusiast who blew £7 million on drugs. One newspaper even said the trust was on the verge of buying the house it already owns. "It was all news to us. We own the house and the contents, and Lord Bristol is our tenant," says Paul Dixon a spokesman.



## DIARY

"Supposedly, he is going to sell us the rest of the estate for £2 million. But we haven't even been approached, so we are very surprised by all this talk of us buying. I'm not even sure if we would want it."

## Fish out of water

LIFE is looking up for the Chelsea Arts Club's carp, which fly in from nearby Battersea Park, as well as poked and prodded by children. Now, club members, worried it might not survive another airborne raid, have dispatched it to frolic in the park's

spacious boating lake. The news cheers George Melly, an Arts Club stalwart. "Good-not Excellent news. Herons are dangerous beasts and do tend to take people's fish." And Peter Southgate, of the Fish Veterinary Society, adds solemnly: "Heron attack is a common cause of loss."

## Take a bow

FORGET the change in the divorce laws. The biggest news for society-watchers was that Richard Branson, at the launch of Virgin's new Airbus, was wearing a tie. He has been quoted more than once saying he cannot think of an occasion when he would consider wearing one.

So was the change of attire in honour of the Princess of Wales, who was naming the plane? Not at all, says

his spokesman, "Richard was wearing a cabin crew's uniform."

● The need for plain English is foremost in the mind of the farming populists. One of the more controversial motions to be put before the annual general meeting of the Farmers Club concerns the need for an apostrophe in the club's name. But where?

## More tea, vicar?

WHILE the Archdeacon of York concerns himself with the Prince of Wales's job prospects, the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Rev John Oliver, has decided to take a part-time job — as a hotel waiter.

This Friday, he will bustle round the tables for two hours in Hereford's Green Dragon Hotel, with an appropriately decorative waistcoat over his purple shirt of office.

Although his extra-curricular activity is in a good cause — for a local radio station has promised £1,000 to charity for his leucine ministrations — the Bishop admits to nerves. "I worked as a waiter when I was a student, and hope to draw on that experience."



## Chipping in for charity

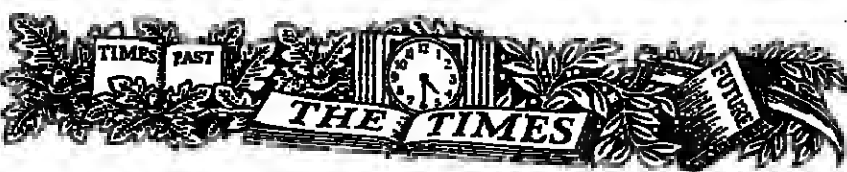
There are definite signs of improvement in the property market, judging by the return to the boorish days of old witnessed at an estate agents' Christmas dinner on Monday night attended by the actress Fiona Fullerton.

The first course, at a West End hotel, passed smoothly enough, but came the main course at the Business and Industrial Agents Society charity dinner, food was thrown. A potato hit Fullerton squarely in the chest, and she was so appalled, according to diners, that she left the room.

Dedicate negotiations followed, and Fullerton was persuaded to return to help raise money through a raffle for charity. An auction followed at which the offending item was sold for more than £200. "It was just that people were letting their hair down. They haven't had much to celebrate for the last few years," says a spokesman for the event. "I think it was a pretty fair shot, but I suppose they paid for it in the end."

مكتبة من الأصل





## FIT TO RULE

A king need not be a model husband

In the year since the separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales, there has been speculation among churchmen about the damage their personal misfortune might cause the monarchy. The public position of the Church has been to support the heir to the throne. In private, however, some churchmen have argued that the moral authority of the monarchy has been dangerously diminished. Yesterday, the Archbishop of York, the Venerable George Austin, made these fears public, alleging that the break-up of the royal marriage had weakened Prince Charles's claim to the succession.

Mr Austin develops his attack on the page opposite, basing his stance on allegations, still unproven, that the prince has conducted an adulterous affair throughout his marriage. He does not, and could not, claim that immoral behaviour bars an heir from the throne. He concludes rather that a man who insincerely makes marriage vows and breaks those vows throughout his married life cannot be trusted to keep the vows of his coronation. This so-called "moral argument", whatever the nature of the Prince's behaviour in marriage, is mischievous, malicious, aggressive in language and wholly regrettable.

Mr Austin invites the prince's future subjects to question his succession to the throne on the grounds that "there is a price to pay for those in public life". In so doing, he confuses the respective public roles of king and politician. An MP found to be unfaithful to his wife is guilty of hypocrisy if he has campaigned for family values; in a more general sense, it may also be argued that his deceit makes him unworthy of the public's trust. Rarely can a politician's public life be wholly held distinct from his private conduct.

A king, in contrast, is not elected or held accountable to a manifesto. He is a symbol of nationhood and history rather than the spokesman of a moral position. His authority flows from popular allegiance to an institution rather than trust in an individual. Although such allegiance can be threatened by poor private conduct, the presumption that a king should be, as a matter of prime importance, a moral exemplar to the nation is a comparatively weak and recent one.

Medieval thinkers employed the concept of a "king's two bodies" to divide the monarch's fallible, physical self from his role as

an idealistic symbol of the realm. Only since Victorian times has there grown the much less subtle notion of the royal family as a group of paragons. It can be argued that a new sovereign's moral authority in dealings with his governments might be weaker if his personal life were tarnished. But much else can damage such relationships. There is no issue of principle here.

Mr Austin's equivalence of coronation and marriage vows is cruder still. The Prince's vow of marriage was a public witness before God of a private commitment to his wife. A pledge of sexual fidelity is not the same as a pledge to serve a nation. A man whose marriage falters does not *ipso facto* become untrustworthy or incompetent. Ross Perot attempted to argue that point — but that was in the rough and tumble of an American presidential election in which it was clearly and rightly rejected. The Hussies of the fifteenth century made similar claims — also for their own political rather than moral ends.

To recognise with dignity that a relationship has failed often requires great honesty and reserves of character. Marital fidelity is an important part of the Church's teaching. It is a form of loyalty rightly valued by Christians. But it is not a value overcoming all others. Mr Austin's contention here is idiosyncratic to say the least.

For many, this debate over the monarch's role as supreme governor of the Church will strengthen the case for disestablishment. Although the Act of Settlement requires only that the sovereign be a communicant Anglican, the Royal Marriages Act limits considerably the monarch's freedom to marry, divorce or remarry. As *The Times* has argued in the past, the repeal of that archaic law would strengthen the monarchy and liberate it from controversy.

But the moral argument is as important as constitutional minutiae. In all that he has done in recent years, Prince Charles has demonstrated a determination to subordinate his personal life to the interests of the nation. Even his unhappy marriage can be seen as an attempt to fulfil public expectations of him as heir to the throne. The misfortunes of the prince's private life have been a regrettable chapter in the history of the monarchy; but they are an unjust, unreliable and unconstitutional test of his fitness to rule.

## SET SUNDAY FREE

MPs have a chance tonight to support the liberty of the citizen

Tonight members of Parliament will vote on a measure which would hugely improve the ordinary lives of about two-thirds of their constituents and make no difference to the remaining third. Put like that, deregulation of Sunday trading should pass without a hitch. But it has become a subject on which many MPs have separated themselves from the stated wishes of their constituents.

In the past 12 national opinion polls, roughly 65 per cent of respondents have expressed the desire for shops to be open on Sundays: not surprisingly, since full-time workers are denied the chance to shop within the law for a full 50 per cent of their leisure time. The boring chores of life all have to be crammed into one day of the week, Saturday. It is all very well for some men to claim that Sunday should be kept special; but working women who also have a family to organise rarely have the luxury of doing nothing for half their weekend. Dealing with the necessities neglected during the week takes more than one day.

Sunday opening, either totally or partially deregulated, would greatly enhance the ease with which these people lead their lives. And, crucially, it would make no difference to the one-third of the population who want to keep their Sundays special. They would still be free to go to church and refrain from shopping. If they are shop assistants themselves, they would not be forced to work against their will. The difference is that the state would no longer insist that other people

refrain from shopping, against their will, on the same day.

An extra day of opening would not cost jobs. Even the shopworkers' union, Usdaw, now backs the partial deregulation option to be put before MPs tonight, which allows small shops to open when they like but restricts big shops to six hours between 10am and 6pm. Present and future workers would be protected from enforced Sunday working. Many more people would be able to earn extra money by filling in on a Sunday for those with Sabbatarian views.

Nor are small shops threatened. They do not compete directly with supermarkets. They cater for the convenience trade, for those who want to pick up the odd pint of milk or forgotten ingredient for Sunday lunch. Most of their Sunday business takes place in the morning, before supermarkets open, when customers buy a few goods along with their newspapers. Shopkeepers should decide their opening hours on the basis of demand from their customers and their own individual preferences: their decision should not be the concern of the criminal justice system.

The question before MPs is not whether some people should continue to observe different habits on one day of the week but whether the state should force everybody to do so, regardless of their beliefs, their religion or their family responsibilities. Most members profess to believe in liberty. Tonight is their chance to prove that they do.

## A STATESMAN CALLS

How different would a world without Gorbachev have been?

Mikhail Gorbachev is a living refutation of the Marxist principle that history is shaped by economic and social forces, not by personalities. He can be argued to have done more to change the map of Europe by peaceful means than any other statesman since Metternich. However much he is derided and debunked in his own homeland, he is a welcome visitor to Britain.

His six-day lecture tour has all the trappings of a state visit, with a Guildhall banquet, a lunch at Downing Street, a reception at the Palace of Westminster and civic ceremonies and honours from Aberdeen to Bristol. More importantly, he had lunch yesterday with Baroness Thatcher, the Western leader who discovered that she could do business with him and persuaded her fellow statesmen to follow her lead.

There was always something special in the relationship between the two. There was plenty of ideological cut and thrust from two people not noted for their reticence or people not noted for conceding a point. If there was also a special wrinkle in Mr Gorbachev's soft brown eyes, it was diplomatically translated as the "personal chemistry" that made for successful encounters.

Now the two elder statesmen, top earners

both on the international lecture circuit, can reflect on their shaping of history and indulge in the game, invented by Pascal when he musing on the fatal beauty of Cleopatra's nose, on what would have happened had they not been there. What if the politburo comrades had not heeded Andrei Gromyko's recommendation that "this man has a nice smile but iron teeth"? Supposing another doddering septuagenarian had followed the unflinching Konstantin Chernenko: would the Brezhnevite "time of stagnation" have been prolonged until the next state funeral? Or what if the Russian nationalists, carefully hiding their hand behind the slogans of communist claptrap, had chosen a tough young hardliner — Grigory Romanov, the disgraced Leningrad party boss, for example? Would there have been no perestroika, no glasnost, no fall of the Berlin Wall and no escape for Eastern Europe from Soviet domination?

Many people in Russia today, indulging in the same speculation, conclude that Mr Gorbachev was an unmitigated disaster for their country. But for his unravelling of communism, the Soviet Union would still be standing today, they insist, and sausage would still be affordable. Maybe. But certainly Mr Gorbachev made a big difference.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Customers and retailers, large and small, examine Sunday shopping

From Mr Maurice Healy

Sir, I first became involved in the arguments about shop hours when I was editing *Which?* in 1974. Research we did then showed that the law was ludicrously complicated and widely flouted and that large numbers of people would have liked to be able to shop at times the law forbade — on Sundays and after 6pm on weekdays. It is a scandal that in a democratic society the situation remains the same nearly 20 years later. In spite of all the efforts that have been made to liberalise the law, the House of Commons has consistently ignored the clearly expressed view of the majority of consumers.

This is, essentially, a libertarian issue. Shopping is a morally neutral activity. When it takes place should be a matter between those involved: consenting adults should be free to shop when they choose. If shopkeepers want to open, shopworkers are prepared to work and customers to buy, why should the State prevent them?

And worst of all, I find it repugnant that shopkeepers who have decided that it does not suit them to open on Sunday should try to persuade Parliament to prevent others from doing so.

I trust that MPs will see through this anti-competitive selfishness and vote to put the power to decide when shops should open where it should be — in the hands of shoppers.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MAURICE HEALY,

15 Onslow Gardens, N10.

December 6.

From the Reverend Trevor Williams

Sir, Thirty million people, according to last week's press advertisement, and now the Vicar of Linthwaite (letter, December 1) as well, want to be free to shop where they like on Sunday as on any other day. Never mind the freedom denied to shopworkers to spend time with their families or in other freely chosen pursuits.

Many arguments are specious. It is that working on Sundays will be voluntary. It is the less wealthy members of society who will suffer to suit the demands of the better off, the less privileged who will have less time with their children to help them learn what is right or wrong. I hope our legislators will vote in shopworkers' interests and in the long-term interests of us all.

Yours faithfully,

TREVOR WILLIAMS

(Chaplain Fellow),

Trinity College, Oxford.

December 6.

From the Joint Managing Director of J. Sainsbury and others

Sir, Wednesday's debate in the House of Commons gives MPs the opportunity to vote for a sensible solution to the question of Sunday trading. The Shopping Hours Reform Council's compromise option would allow small shops to open for as long as they like and large stores for a maximum of six hours, and all shopworkers would have the freedom of choice whether or not to work on a Sunday.

This formula reconciles the needs of consumers and shopworkers without sacrificing the special nature of Sunday. It is an option which is simple and easy to enforce. It is supported by a wide coalition of store groups, trades unions, consumers and politicians.

Mr Stuart Hampson, chairman of the John Lewis Partnership (article, December 4), says that the 1950 Shops Act is "open to easy ridicule". The problem is that the restrictive option

he favours replaces one set of ridiculous rules with another, and one which would be virtually impossible to enforce.

His claim that small businesses will be "knocked out" has no basis in fact. The main threat to small shops is from 13,000 garage forecourt shops, and 36 per cent of this "top-up" shopping is done early, before the 10am threshold for large-store opening provided for in the SHRC option. The restrictive option would, in fact, damage small businesses. Many small shops, such as farm shops, antique shops and most shops in tourist areas, would be forced to close on Sundays. In addition, DIY stores and garden centres would face so many restrictions on what they could sell that most of them would not be able to open.

As long as consumers wish to shop on a Sunday and shopworkers are willing to work on a Sunday, why should MPs stop them?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID QUARMBY,  
Joint Managing Director, J. Sainsbury,  
PATRICK GILLAM (Chairman, Asda),  
STANLEY KALMS (Chairman, Debenhams),  
IAN MACLAURIN (Chairman, Tesco),  
GEOFFREY MULCAHY  
(Chairman, Kingfisher),  
COLIN SMITH  
(Chief Executive, Argyl Group),  
c/o Stamford House,  
Stamford Street, SE1,  
December 7.

From the Deputy Director of the Consumers' Association

Sir, The spectacle of a major retailer pleading to be restrained from trading is not the least of the anomalies arising from proposals to re-regulate Sunday shopping.

Stuart Hampson is generous in espousing the cause of the elderly, the handicapped, those without cars and shopworkers, but is misguided in suggesting that there is a socially apocalyptic price to be paid for Sunday shopping. Sunday shopping is, after all, what we have at the moment: reform of the law — in line with the Government's current drive to deregulate — merely regularises this state of affairs.

As the longest-standing exponent of the only option guaranteed to give consumers what they want, the Consumers' Association has consistently argued for total deregulation. It is the simplest, the fairest and the cheapest option. It is also common sense. The current law contains famous anomalies. Re-regulation, along the lines promoted by Retailers for Shops Act Reform and the Keep Sunday Special campaign, would bring in a whole new set of anomalies to excite the admiration and amazement of our heirs.

For instance, the regulatory regime espoused by John Lewis would result in a small supermarket of 270 sq ft being able to stay open all Sunday, while nearby premises of 290 sq ft would be forced to stay closed. Equally arbitrary and complex would be the definitions of goods which may be sold: a plug for a drill, used "in the construction, repair or decoration" of "the structure of the home", could be sold legitimately, but not a plug for a toaster. Books could be sold by a newsagent, but not a bookshop. Throughout, the scope for appeal and expensive litigation is enormous.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN HOSKER,  
Deputy Director,  
Consumers' Association,  
2 Marylebone Road, NW1,  
December 6.

### Winged creatures

From Mr Alexander Franklin

Sir, I recently saw the 15th-century painting of *The Annunciation*, which you used in support of Enoch Powell's article, "Angels from the realms of glory" (Weekend, November 27), hanging in the church of St Marie Madeleine, Aix-en-Provence.

The painting shows the Archangel Gabriel with owl wings: there are carvings of bats above his head, the beams emanating from God pass the figure of an ape on their way to the Virgin. It has been suggested, therefore, that the picture had connections with a diabolical cult.

Whether or not this is true, your use of it at the start of *Advent*, "to celebrate the biblical role of Gabriel and his heavenly colleagues", seems odd.

Yours faithfully,

ALEXANDER FRANKLIN,

23 Abinger Place, Lewes, East Sussex.

### Rate for the job

From Miss Christine Little

Sir, I know of no temporary help agency that would consider paying a skilled or even an unskilled worker £1.50 an hour (Mr F. M. M. Steiner's letter, November 30).

We expect the staffing industry to treat temporary workers with the dignity they deserve. Temporary work offers important flexibility and mobility and in many cases temporary jobs lead to long-term commitments. That, coupled with the very important training that many temporary help agencies are able to offer, is helping to get people off the unemployment register.

Yours faithfully,

CHRISTINE LITTLE

(Chief Executive),

The Federation of Recruitment

and Employment Services Ltd,

36-38 Mortimer Street, W1.

### Judgment on Levitt

From Mr Charles Young

Sir, Whilst I am in no way condoning the leniency of the sentence passed on Mr Roger Levitt (report, November 27; letters, December 2, 3), I was astounded to read that the judge's criticism of the professional conduct of the defending counsel, Mr Jonathan Goldberg, QC, was made public (report, December 3).

By accusing Mr Goldberg of "gravely misrepresenting the true facts" about the way in which Mr Levitt came by his funds, is Mr Justice Laws not taking on the role of jury as well as judge? Mr Levitt's guilt or innocence on this matter, as well as all others except the single charge to which he pleaded guilty, was never proven.

Surely it was up to the prosecution alone to refute statements made to the jury about the sources of Mr Levitt's funds. As the jury were never called upon to decide in this case, is this not all a smokescreen to obscure the fact that it was the judge who had the sole power of sentencing, and it is the sentence alone that is now in the public arena?

That the defence had "a result"

### Decline and fall

From Professor Maxwell Hutchinson

Sir, So the arts in England are to be cut by £3.2 million next year (Budget report, December 1) — as Lord Palumbo put it, "a national disgrace".

Your report also says that Peter Brooke, the National Heritage Secretary, will be making around £10 million available to restore the graciously decaying Albert Memorial in London.

While our distinguished orchestras, theatre companies and artists of many persuasions struggle for survival, we should let the good Prince Consort's cenotaph, badly built as it was, sink into the dust that awaits any worthy

From Miss Nicole Lander

Sir, Sunday shopping is predominantly a women's issue. It's about their freedom to shop and their freedom to work — through choice.

Research by Stirling University shows the vast majority of Sunday shopworkers are women — 80 per cent. They work on Sunday because they choose to, often because they can leave their children with their partners and so have no child-care costs.

If MPs vote for the Keep Sunday Special and Retailers for Shops Act Reform option, 140,000 jobs will be lost. The only way to preserve jobs and to ensure that women have the right to choose how to live their lives is if the MPs vote on Wednesday for the "six-hour option".

Yours faithfully,  
NICOLE LANDER  
(National Coordinator),  
National Association of  
Sunday Shopworkers,  
PO Box 3256, London SW11 1PE,  
December 6.

From the Chairman of Sears plc and others

Sir, A lot has been written in these columns (letters, November 29, December 1) about the Sunday Trading Bill and its implications for our way of life but on one point there still seems to be confusion.

There is before MPs a straight choice between two options, not three. The so-called compromise solution, promoted by the Shopping Hours Reform Council, is no such thing. The impact of six hours of prime-time Sunday trading is, in both commercial and social terms, no different from total deregulation of the whole day. The effects of it, on small shops especially, will be equally devastating.

We support the Retailers for Shops Act Reform/Keep Sunday Special option. This allows many small shops and all DIY stores and garden centres to open every Sunday and all shops to open on the four Sundays before Christmas. It is the only option which balances the long-term needs of consumers with those of retailers, employees and the wider community.

Deregulation, on the other hand, will lead to the closure of thousands of small shops, the further decline of the high street, less consumer choice and higher prices.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY MAITLAND SMITH,  
Chairman, Sears plc,  
GRAEME BOWLER (Managing Director  
and Chief Executive, Kwik Save Group plc),  
STUART HAMPSON (Chairman,  
John Lewis Partnership plc),  
JOHN HOERNER  
(Chief Executive, The Burton Group plc),  
MORTON MIDDLETICH  
(Assistant Managing Director,  
Spar Landmark Group),  
DAVID SIEFF  
(Director, Marks & Spencer plc),  
DAVID SKINNER (Chief Executive,  
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd),  
MALCOLM WALKER  
(Chairman, Iceland Frozen Foods plc),  
c/o Sears plc, 40 Duke Street, W1,  
December 7.

From the Director of the Association for the Conservation of Energy

Sir, In his anti-Sunday trading article, Stuart Hampson raises a new and extremely critical issue. He refers to the amount of extra energy consumption — and hence pollution — that seven-day trading might cause.

Some weeks back we enquired informally from the Department of the Environment what estimates it

had made of the implications for carbon emissions from energy use which would flow from retail deregulation. We were told that no studies had been undertaken within government on this matter. Yet for some years now, government has been committed to evaluating the environmental impacts of all new legislation, as part of the move towards sustainability.

We subsequently drew up our own estimates from published sources of retail energy use (lighting, heating, etc). We have concluded that, were some 70 per cent of stores to open seven days a week, at least an extra 500,000 tonnes of carbon would be emitted in a year. On top of this figure would be the pollution resulting from extra traffic. Whilst there is no prima facie reason to believe that there would be a significant number of extra passenger journeys, there is likely to be an increase in freight journeys, particularly carrying perishables.

If MPs are to opt on Wednesday for an extension of opening hours, it is preferable that they do so in full knowledge of its implications for the environment.

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW WARREN,

Director,

Association for the

Conservation of Energy,

9 Sherlock Mews, W1.

December 6.

From Mr R. E. Stubbs

Sir, Graham Searjeant's article on Sunday trading (December 6) was good but I would contest the "second incontestable argument" — that deregulation should increase economic efficiency by spreading overheads over seven days.

Surely if you take the premise that no one will grow an additional stomach and so create an extra demand for food then the supermarkets, by opening on Sundays, will (as Mr Searjeant suggested) need to knock out the small shops to make the practice economically viable.

If all the supermarkets open on Sundays — and those which do have sufficient principles not to break the law at present have said that they may have to join in to protect their share of the market — then all short-term gains will be nullified.

The supermarkets will not want to make a dent in their profits, so the only alternative will be price rises.

Extra opening hours will also call for additional police, traffic wardens, public transport, refuse collectors, and trading standards and environmental health officers.

Yours sincerely,  
RON STUBBS,  
33 Silverdale, Maidstone, Kent.  
December 6.

From Mr Colin Henderson-Begg

Sir, I sincerely hope that all Scottish MPs will demonstrate their political maturity by voting for complete deregulation of shopping hours on Wednesday in order to bring England and Wales into line with Scotland. If they cannot bring themselves to do so, surely they should abstain from voting altogether.

Yours sincerely,  
COLIN HENDERSON-BEGG,  
71 Cowen Close,  
Creskern, Somerset,  
December 6.

### Wartime bombing

From Mr Geoffrey Wheatcroft

Sir, Your obituary of Air Marshal Sir Harry Burton (December 1) describes the first air raids of the war, when "Bomber Command" did its best to comply with the idiotic rules of engagement laid down by the Chamberlain War Cabinet. I.e., not to release bombs over enemy territory if they risked "damaging private property" or endangering civilian life.

Those rules were soon abandoned. Bomber Command went on to destroy many of the most beautiful cities in Europe, and to kill 600,000 civilians, 100,000 of them children. "Sentimental" or "insufficiently ruthless" rules, perhaps; but is "idiotic" really the word?

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY WHEATCROFT,  
The Coach House, Crowe Hall,  
Widcombe, Bath, Avon.

### Pass along, please

From Mr Tim Cecil

Sir, Mr Andrew Murray, who laments the glut of trainee solicitors (letter, December 3), may like to know that good bus drivers are in demand.

Amongst other rewards, driving a bus offers an experience that can be invaluable to those who might otherwise go straight from gleaming spires to ivory towers. Applications may be addressed to the undersigned.

Yours faithfully  
TIM CECIL  
(Managing Director),  
Buffalo Travel,  
Enterprise Way, Flitwick,  
Bedfordshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.



## COURT CIRCULAR

**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**  
December 7: The Queen held an investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

The Earl of Airie KT (Lord Chamberlain) had an audience of Her Majesty and presented an Address from the House of Lords to which the Queen was graciously pleased to make reply.

The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of Her Majesty this evening.

The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, later honoured The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) by her presence at the Regimental Dinner at St James's Palace and was received by the Colonel (Major General Charles Ramsay).

The Lady Susan Hussey, the Rt Hon Sir Robert Fellowes and Lieutenant Colonel Malcolm Ross were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Fleet, this morning addressed the Royal College of Defence Studies, Belgrave Square, London SW1.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2. Brigadier Miles Hunt-Davis was in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir Brian Kenny at the Memorial Service for Colonel George Kiddison-Montgomery of Southampton which was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3, this afternoon.

The Lady Susan Hussey has succeeded Mrs John Dugdale as Lady in Waiting to Her Majesty.

The Princess Royal, Patron, the Butler Trust, this morning visited HM Prison Swansea, 200 Oystermouth Road, Swansea, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for West Glamorgan (Lieutenant Colonel Sir Michael Llewellyn, BJ).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, this afternoon opened Barry Citizens Advice Bureau, 119 Broad Street, Barry, and was received by Mr John Cory (Vice Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan).

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the Festival of Trees Gala Dinner, National History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7. The Princess Leggo-Bourke was in attendance.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**  
December 7: The Lady Margaret Colville has succeeded Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

**ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
December 7: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning received the Secretary of the Duchy of Cornwall (Mr John James).

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a Luncheon with the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (the Rt Hon Douglas Hurd MP) at Carlton Gardens, London SW1.

The Prince of Wales later chaired a Council Meeting of the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, 14-15 Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1. Mr Stephen Lamport was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception to mark the launch of the Roof of Americas Expedition at the Officers' Mess, Wellington Barracks, London SW1. Commander Robert Fraser RN was in attendance.

**KENSINGTON PALACE**  
December 7: The Duke of Gloucester was received as an Honorary Freeman by the Worshipful Company of Grocers at a Court Luncheon at Grocers' Hall, Princes Street, London EC2.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Honorary Freeman, the Worshipful Company of Gold and Silver Wire Drawers, was present this evening at the Tercentenary Banquet at Guildhall, London EC2.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

**YORK HOUSE**  
ST JAMES'S PALACE  
December 7: The Duchess of Kent this morning arrived at London Guildhall from the Republic of the Seychelles. Mrs Peter Troughton was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, this evening attended the Regimental Dinner of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) at St James's Palace. Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

**RICHMOND PARK**  
December 7: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Angus Ogilvy, this evening presented the Barclays Youth Action Awards at a Reception held in aid of Youth Clubs UK at the Mansion House, London EC4.

His Royal Highness was received by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Mr Norman Paul Neill). Mrs Peter Alia was in attendance.

The Queen has appointed Lord Jenkins of Hillhead and Mr Lucian Freud, CH, to be members of the Order of Merit.



The actress Patricia Routledge holds the insignia of OBE which was presented to her by the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday. Miss Routledge, who stars as the superb Hyacinth Bucket in the television comedy *Keeping Up Appearances*, said: "It is a very great honour for

my profession. I take it on behalf of all people who work in the arts." Lieutenant Colonel Bob Stewart, who became a national hero as head of the Cheshire Regiment in Bosnia, received the DSO. The polar explorers Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Michael Stroud, who

were also made OBEs, said that despite their reported rift they had not ruled out another joint expedition. The Queen asked about their health after a 1,350-mile Antarctic journey which ended with them said to be "more dead than alive" and praised their achievement.

## Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.J. Grose and Miss S.J. Cowie

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Brigadier James Grose and of Mrs Grose, of Bicknoller, Somerset, and Juliana, widow of Nigel Cowie and daughter of Rosemary Viscountess Brookeborough, of Ashbrooke, Brookeborough, Northern Ireland.

Mr R. Hanka and Miss V.L. Edwards

The engagement is announced between Robert, only son of Dr and Mrs R. Hanka, of Great Shelford, Cambridge, and Vanessa Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.M. Edwards, of Chichester, West Sussex, and Hong Kong.

Mr R. Hiscov and Miss S.C.H. Norcliffe

The engagement is announced between Kenneth, eldest son of Mr Robert Hiscov and Mrs Robert Dodford, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Norcliffe.

Mr P.M. O'Carroll and Miss S.V.C. Le Neve Foster

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs J. O'Carroll, of Tralee, Co Kerry, and Vanessa, younger daughter of the late Mr Clive Le Neve Foster and of Mrs Le Neve Foster, of Lattimer, Buckinghamshire.

Mr B.P. Oughton and Miss A.M. Turberville

The engagement is announced between Ben Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Oughton, of Burwell, Cambridge, and Alison Mary, daughter of Mr Alan Turberville, CBE, and Mrs Gillian Turberville, of Oxford.

Mr C.N. Caple and Miss S.M. Roberts

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Caple, of Bristol, and Sandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Roberts, of Penbroke.

Mr F.A. Foulds and Miss J.M. Burton

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs M.A. Foulds, of Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottingham, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H.R. Burton, of Ragdale, Leicestershire.

Mr T.S.J. Regan and Miss M.E. Keach

The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Terry and Shirley Regan, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Megan, youngest daughter of Vernon and Ray Keach, of Ely, Cambridgeshire.

**Marriage**

Mr N.E. Evans-Lombe and Miss G.F. Spackman

The marriage took place on Saturday, December 4, at St Peter's Church, Parham, of Mr Nicholas Evans-Lombe, son of Sir Edward and Lady Evans-Lombe, of Martingford, Norfolk, to Miss Gabrielle Spackman, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Anthony Spackman, of Watersfield, West Sussex. The Rev Clive Jenkins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Isla Harrop, Alexandra Newham and Maude Smith. Mr James Leamond was best man. A reception was held at Parham House.

## Royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will attend a reception at the Naval Club at 6.30 to mark the 50th anniversary of the RNVR Officers' Association.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as National President of the Royal Air Forces Association, will attend a meeting of the central council and a luncheon at the RAF Club at 11.30; and as patron, will attend the winter meeting of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons at the Royal College of Surgeons at 3.00.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will dine with the benchers at Middle Temple at 7.45.

The Prince of Wales, as President of The Prince's Trust, will open the Gateway Partners foyer project at 66 Lancaster Street, SE1, at 10.20; will attend a reception at Old Kent House, 30 Vandonia Crescent, at noon in aid of the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice and will hold a reception for winners of The Prince of Wales's Award for Rural Crafts and Skills at St James's Palace at 6.00.

The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend the National Olympic Committee meeting at the Queens Club at 10.50; and as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a council meeting at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.10.

Princess Margaret, as President of the Girl Guides Association, will hold a reception for Queens' Guides at Kensington Palace at 5.00.

The Duke of Gloucester will present the British Council of Shopping Centres 1993 awards at a dinner at the London Hilton on Park Lane at 7.30.

The Duke of Kent, as president, will attend the Business and Technology Education Council's student of the year award ceremony at the Institute of Civil Engineers at 1.55.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend the "Not Forgotten" Association's Christmas party and the Royal Mews at 3.00.

Princess Alexandra, as chancellor, will preside at ceremonies for the conferring of degrees and diplomas and will open the George Fox teaching and residential building at Lancaster University at 11.40.

## School news

**Wycombe Abbey School**  
Sixth Form Scholarships (tenable from September 1994). Major Scholarship: Cledie Chan, Wycombe Abbey School; Katherine Mann, Wycombe Abbey School.

Scholarships: Katherine Halstead, Wycombe Abbey School; Miriam Heaton, Wycombe Abbey School; Florence Whitmore, Wycombe Abbey School; Margaret Williams, Wycombe Abbey School.

Minor Scholarships: Sarah Foster, Wycombe Abbey School; Jessica Mance, Wycombe Abbey School; Mary Widdowson, Wycombe Abbey School; William Williams, Wycombe Abbey School.

Internal Sixth Form Scholarships (tenable from September 1994) have been awarded to: Victoria Stevens (Fisher Scholarship) and Seon, Seon (Flux Dundas Scholarship).

**Luncheon**  
HM Government  
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, was host yesterday at a luncheon held at Admiralty House in honour of Mr Imrich Andrejak, Minister for Defence of the Slovak Republic.

## Memorial services

**Les Dawson**  
A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Les Dawson will be held in Westminster Abbey at noon on Thursday, February 24, 1994.

Those wishing to attend are asked to apply for tickets, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by not later than February 3, to: The Assistant Receiver General (Protocol), Room 24, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3PA. Tickets will be posted on February 10. Admission to the Service will be by ticket only. All are welcome to apply.

**Miss Margaret Boyd**  
A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Miss Margaret Boyd, OBE, will be held in the Chapel of Wycombe Abbey School on Sunday, January 23, 1994, at 2.15 pm. Tea will be held in the school afterwards. Would all those intending to join the service please contact the Head Mistress's Secretary at the School (telephone 0194 520381).

Aldan and Virginia Crawley  
A memorial service for Aldan and Virginia Crawley will be held in St George's Church, Chester Square, on Thursday, February 10, at noon.

## Birthdays today

Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison, Lord

Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear, 68;

Mr Julian Critchley, MP, 63;

Professor Sir Roger Elliott, physicist, 65; Mr Lucian Freud, OM,

CH, painter, 71; Mr James Galt,

base player, 54; Sir de Villiers

Graff, former South African politician, 80; Sir David Hay, cardiologist,

and his twin brother Sir Hamish Hay, former mayor of

Christchurch, New Zealand, 66;

Mr Geoff Hurst, footballer, 52; Sir

Peter Levene, chairman, Canary

Wharf, 52; Mr Terry McDermott,

footballer, 42; Mr Justice Jonathan

Parker, 56; Lord Prys-Davies, 70;

Mr D.J. Verey, chairman, Lazard

Brothers, 43; Mr Lynn Wilson,

Wilson (Connolly) Holdings, 54.

**Anniversaries**

**BIRTHS:** Horace, Quintus Horatius

Flaccus, Roman poet, Venusia,

Southern Italy, 65 BC; Mary

Queen of Scots, reign 1542-67;

Lindisfarne, 1542; Eli Whitney,

inventor of the cotton gin,

Westborough, Massachusetts,

1765; Georges Feydeau, dramatist,

Paris, 1862; Jan Sibelius, composer,

Hameenlinna, Finland, 1865;

James Thurber, American writer,

Columbus, Ohio, 1894.

**DEATHS:** John Pym, leader of the

opposition to King Charles I,

London, 1643; Thomas de Quincy,

writer, Edinburgh, 1859;

Simon Marks, Baron Marks of

Broughton, retail trade leader,

London, 1964; John Lennon,

singer and songwriter, shot, Man-

hatten, 1980.

## Dinners

**Company of Gold and Silver**

**Wyre Drawers**  
The Duchess of Gloucester,

Honorary Freeman of the Com-

pany of Gold and Silver Wire

Drawers, assisted by Mr

Kennerd Reed and Mr Bryan

Marsh Wardens, presided at a

court dinner held last night at

Stations' Hall. Professor Hugh

Stephenson was the guest speaker.

"Not Forgotten" Association

The General Committee of the

"Not Forgotten" Association held a

dinner last night at the Victoria

Services Club for disabled ex-

service guests. Major-General Sir

Christopher Airy, chairman, pre-

sided.

**The Royal Scots Dragoon**

**Guards**  
The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief of

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards,

was present at a regimental dinner

held last night at St James's Palace.

King Constantine of The Hellenes

and Field Marshal the Duke of

Kent attended. Major-General

Charles Ramsay, Colonel of the

Regiment, presided. Field Marshal

Sir John Sturges, president of the

regimental council, was also

present.

**Service dinner**

The Royal Scots Dragoon

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regimental council, was also

present.

**Election**

Stephen Williamson, QC, has been

elected to succeed Brian Walsh,

QC, as Leader of the North

Eastern Circuit from January 1,

1994.

## Dealer cut old master in half

HALF a picture may turn out to be

one of the most intriguing lots in a

£1.8 million sale of contents from

Woolton House, a regency man-

sion near Newbury, Berkshire.

It belonged to the late Mrs Vera

Hue-Williams, a penniless Rus-

sian emigre who married four

times and became a millionaire

racehorse owner and breeder.

The other half is in the Hermit-

age Museum of St Petersburg. It

shows herdsman resting under a

tree and is by Abraham Bloemart

(1656-1657), a well known Dutch

master.

The painting was done about

1605 and bought by a Berlin dealer

in Amsterdam in July 1975. He cut

it in half, thinking the two halves

would sell more readily and they

were shipped to St Petersburg in

1973. Later they became separated

before the right half was returned

to the Hermitage in 1919.

The connection was spotted by

Richard Chastell-Jones of

Solihull as the firm prepared for

a two-day house sale on the

premises which ended last night.

The painting, which hung in the

library, is expected to make about

£50,000 in the firm's old master

sale in Bond Street today.

How Mrs Hue-Williams ac-

quired her half is a mystery. She

was born in Kiev, fled penniless

with her mother from the advancing

Bolshevik revolution in 1917,

and settled in England where she

married four times and became a

racehorse owner and breeder.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 071 481 1982  
PRIVATE: 071 481 4000

FAX: 071 481 9313  
FAX: 071 782 7828

The City did not need the sun

or the moon to shine on it for

the glory of God (Rev 8.12)

Revelation 21:23 (Rev 21:23)

**BIRTHS**

**BALDWIN** - On December 6th,

David, a son, to Elizabeth (née

Samuel), a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth

Samuel, a daughter, to Elizabeth



## OBITUARIES

**Felix Houphouët-Boigny**, President of the Ivory Coast since 1960, died yesterday aged 88. He was born at Yamoussoukro on October 18, 1905.

AN INCONGRUOUS cathedral, bigger than St Paul's and only slightly smaller than St Peter's, stands today in Yamoussoukro, the Ivory Coast capital — a doubtful monument to the wisdom of Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Africa's longest-serving head of state. A latter-day Versailles built in Greco-Roman style with nearly 300 Doric columns, at the late President's birthplace 150 miles from Abidjan, the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace cost an estimated £150 million to construct at a time when the foreign debt of the Ivory Coast stood at £6 billion. It was blessed by the Pope on its completion in 1989 but was widely regarded as, perhaps, the Third World's most opulent folly and a poignant symbol of the decline in the judgment of the man once one of Africa's most respected and effective leaders.

Over half-a-century, Felix Houphouët-Boigny had emerged from being the *bête noire* of the French colonial administration in West Africa to become, first, the darling of the Palais-Bourbon, then the leader of the overseas territory with the closest and most rewarding links with France, eventually being known as *le vieux* and *le sage* de Yamoussoukro, the Grand Old Man of the francophone African and finally of Africa itself. For most of his rule, the Ivory Coast blossomed as Africa's most vibrant and prosperous state, admired in the West and on the African continent itself. Yet, by the end, Houphouët-Boigny's reputation was sadly tarnished by the eventual decline in the Ivory Coast's fortunes and the regime's rampant corruption.

For most of his long years in power he governed his five-million-

strong West African state, comprised of more than 60 tribes, as a relatively benevolent dictator; and delighted in describing himself as a "premier-peasant". During that time, the Ivory Coast's cocoa and coffee crops were the largest in Africa.

In spite of the trappings of a one-party state Houphouët-Boigny basked in the glory of being an enlightened leader. In 1986, however, when the real prices of cocoa and coffee dropped by half, the Ivory Coast economy went into decline. And over the next five years, the elderly President procrastinated rather than enforcing austerity measures and failed to crackdown on spiralling corruption. In May 1990, following two months of unprecedented student-led demonstrations and widespread strikes, he was forced to bow to popular pressure and authorised the setting up of a multi-party democracy.

Felix Houphouët came of a prosperous and well connected Baoulé family and was brought up as a Roman Catholic. He added Boigny to his name later — a dialect word meaning "ram" with the connotation of irresistible force. From local schools he went on to the medical school at Dakar which turned out *médecins africains* for French West Africa in three years. Armed with what was then the highest medical qualification open to an African, he returned to his own country in 1925 and practised medicine there for 15 years. He earned a reputation as a healer and later attributed his common touch to this daily contact with poor people and their problems.

Houphouët-Boigny gave up medicine in 1940 in order to look after the family lands. Four years later his experiences in farming led him to found the Syndicat Agricole Africain which organised agrarian grievances over forced labour and low prices with such popular success that he was soon after-

## FELIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY



wards elected as a deputy for the Ivory Coast in the French Assembly. The overseas deputies were in the habit of dividing their support between the various left-wing parties in the assembly according to their philosophies or the prospects of advantage which were offered. Houphouët-Boigny allied himself at first with the Union Républicaine et Démocratique de

la Résistance which was associated with the French Communist Party. He also played a big part in the foundation of the Rassemblement Démocratique Africain which, with communist support, quickly became the main instrument of nationalist activity in French tropical Africa.

French efforts to curb the activities of the RDA were met by

organised strikes, demonstrations and boycotts and early in 1950 a warrant was issued for Houphouët-Boigny's arrest. Though protected by his immunity as a deputy he appeared to waver for a time between taking to the hills and coming to terms with the French authorities. In the end he publicly dissociated himself and his party from the communists both in the French Assembly and the Ivory Coast. It is unlikely that any difficult question of principle was involved. He was not a Communist by temperament or background. He was a Roman Catholic. He came from a chief's family rich in plantations. He was also a very pragmatic realist.

After switching his support and that of the seven RDA deputies to the Socialist Party in the French Assembly he became the first African to be offered a post in the French Cabinet. He remained a minister for the next three years and became a close friend of François Mitterrand and Guy Mollet, and he was later to become the trusted adviser of General de Gaulle.

He represented France at the United Nations and, as a minister in de Gaulle's government, he toured the French territories in Africa with the General to persuade them of the advantages of opting for self-government within the French Community rather than complete independence out in the cold.

He led his own country to vote decisively for the former in a referendum. When Léopold Senghor later managed to induce de Gaulle to allow the federation of Mali to become independent without losing the benefits of the French Community, Houphouët-Boigny was understandably vexed at this signal change in French policy, and eventually followed suit.

Although his presidential powers were considerable and his party was the only one allowed, he went

to some lengths to encourage dissidents among the students and trade unions to stand for election within his party framework, and in 1969 he staged a series of spectacular *élections générales* in which his opponents were permitted to express their grievances and disagreements. Despite these liberal gestures and an annual growth of 8 per cent in the country's economy, attempts to unseat and assassinate him were not lacking. He dealt with offenders in a manner calculated to discourage others — imprisoning or exiling them. He was faced with a paradox: to keep the country's economic momentum going he had to push ahead as quickly as possible with developing a trained and educated élite. Yet it was from within this élite that the dissenters flourished.

In placing economic development before all else, Houphouët-Boigny was backed all the way by successive French governments which saw him, rightly, as a man they could rely on. In the 20 years following independence the French population in the Ivory Coast trebled and 60 per cent of business was in foreign hands, mostly French. Abidjan, then the capital as well as the commercial centre, became the most modern and affluent city in black Africa, as well as the most expensive. Later Yamoussoukro, the village of his birth in the centre of the country was transformed into a showplace of modernity with elegant boulevards and impressive buildings.

President Houphouët-Boigny was an amiable, sophisticated man, as much at home in Paris, and in Geneva where he kept a house, as in West Africa. His critics complained that because of his flexibility he lacked the charisma of a national leader who had suffered poverty, exile and prison, and his long love affair with France rendered him suspect to those both in Africa and on the Left Bank who believed that bitter opposition was

preferable to amiable and profitable co-operation. While this pragmatic philosophy left him free to join with other West African leaders like Senghor of Senegal and Dawda Jawara of the Gambia in seeking an accommodation with the South Africans, and in opposing the efforts of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to subvert established governments in Chad and other partially Muslim states, it did not prevent him taking a leading part in the work of the OAU and in making common cause with other non-aligned states in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

He hosted state visits from both President Giscard d'Estaing in 1983 and from President Mitterrand in 1982 with equal enthusiasm and savoir-faire and in 1962 paid a four-day visit to Britain. In 1971 he shocked other African leaders by proposing a dialogue with the South African government, in spite of its apartheid practices, with a view to showing the Pretoria authorities that their policies were wrong. Undeterred by the criticism his approach attracted, four years later he entertained J. B. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister on a secret two-day visit to the Ivory Coast and in 1990 met Vorster's successor, P. W. Botha but made no apparent headway in enlightening the republic's leader on racial matters. However, in April last year, after President de Klerk began dismantling the apartheid laws in South Africa, Houphouët-Boigny became the first African leader to accord the Pretoria government full democratic recognition. He also restored ties with Israel in 1985, a time when the Jewish state was viewed as a pariah by most of Africa.

Later he had spent long spells in cancer clinics in France and Switzerland, returning home for the last time on November 19. Houphouët-Boigny refused to groom an heir, saying: "An African chief never names his successor."

## LORD HIRSHFIELD

**Lord Hirschfield**, chartered accountant and founder and chairman of Trades Union Unit Trust Managers, 1961-83, died on December 6 aged 80. He was born on May 17, 1913.

THE SON of a middle-class Conservative family, Lord Hirschfield received his life peerage under the second Harold Wilson administration in 1967 largely as a result of his work in establishing a unit trust fund for trade unions. It was a valiant attempt to bring capital and labour together at a time when things were actually on the verge of looking increasingly unpropitious for such a marriage. Trades Union Unit Trust Managers placed its services at the disposal of both individual trade union members and of unions themselves. At the start one of its largest



clients was, paradoxically, the Communist-led Electrical Trades Union (ETU). In the wake of the Labour Government's defeat at the

general election of 1970 Lord Hirschfield, at Harold Wilson's request, drew up a plan for making the workings of the Leader of the Opposition's office more efficient. Inasmuch as his ideas tended to diminish the role of Labour Party headquarters, then still in Transport House, they were regarded as being rather too bold to be stretched. To Wilson's own disappointment, they were quietly shelved.

Desmond Barrell Hirschfield was the son of a dentist who for some years practised near Aberfan, of tragic memory, in the South Wales coalfield. He was educated at City of London School and qualified as a chartered accountant just before the war. After the war he became involved in auditing the accounts of several trade unions and conceived the idea of using his knowledge to help the trade union movement.

From 1962 he was involved with the international accountancy consortium Horwath & Horwath and from 1968 to 1976 was chairman of Horwath & Horwath (UK). Socially conscious and in instincts politically to the left of centre as he was, his professional activities began to diversify in the early 1960s. This was in a political climate which, for the first time for 13 years, made the election of a Labour government seem a distinct possibility. The founding of Trades Union Unit Trust Managers, in 1961, was one of the first steps in demonstrating his credo that sound financial management need not be incompatible with socialist principles.

To ensure that trade unions were given no grounds to feel that their money was being spirited away and managed out of their control, by City

whizz kids, Hirschfield had built in to the unit trust an elected unit holders' investment committee, comprising representatives of the unions themselves. Thus, arguments about stock held in countries with politically unacceptable records — notably, in that period, South Africa — could be aired, with unions withdrawing if they felt unhappy about their investment.

Another of his interests was the Foundation on Automation and Human Development which he founded in 1962. He was to remain its director for the next 25 years. When, therefore, Wilson came to power in 1964, ushering in a government pledged to inaugurate modern, technology-based socialism and business practices, the achievements of a top-class accountant of Hirschfield's persuasions were naturally in harmony with his plans.

Hirschfield's diverse interests gave him wide appeal to an administration wanting to get away from an image of cloth cap socialism and take itself into the brave new world which beckoned in the confident Sixties. He was a member of the Committee on Consumer Credit; deputy chairman of the Northampton New Town Development Corporation; a member of the Central Advisory Water Committee; and, on the international front, treasurer of the UK Committee of Unicef.

After the failure of his scheme to reform the Leader of the Opposition's office, Hirschfield was not prominent in the House of Lords and had little influence on the Labour administrations of the latter 1970s. But he continued active in his business interests and was president of Horwath & Horwath International, 1977-84, and International president until 1986. He was the author of a number of pamphlets on accounting and tax matters.

He married, in 1951, Bronia Eisen, who survives him. An earlier marriage, to Alma King, was dissolved.

## DON AMECHE

**Don Ameche**, Hollywood film actor, died on December 6 aged 85. He was born Dominic Felix Amici in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on May 31, 1908.

A POPULAR Hollywood leading man of the 1930s and 1940s, Don Ameche had been away from the screen for 12 years and largely forgotten when he returned at the age of 75 to play a rich villain in the hit comedy, *Trading Places* (1983). His excellent performance led to *Cocoon* (1985) for which he won an Oscar for best supporting actor.

Ameche was the son of an Italian immigrant father and an Irish-German mother. He went to university to study law but made his professional acting debut while still a student and his New York stage debut at 21. He continued to work in the theatre, and became well-known as a radio personality before entering films in 1936.

He failed a screen test at MGM in 1935 — "I saw it and hated it," he said. "But then I found later that I hated everything I did." An agent, however, showed the test to Darryl F. Zanuck, the chief of 20th Century Fox, and Zanuck made Ameche the busiest actor at the studio.

In the next dozen years he made more than 40 pictures, many of them musicals and light romances. With glossy, dark hair and a pencil moustache, he was usually cast as the debonair man-about-town, though his most famous part was the title role in *The Story of Alexander Graham Bell* (1939). The film started a joke that Ameche had invented the telephone and for a while telephones became popularly known as "Ameches".

Although never pretending to any great range, Ameche managed to vary his roles sufficiently to avoid typecasting. He played D'Artagnan in a 1939 musical burlesque of *The Three Musketeers* and, in

the same year, the songwriter, Stephen Foster, in *Swanee River*. Ameche proved the ideal leading man for such stars as Loretta Young (*Romance, Love Under Fire*), Betty Grable (*Down Argentine Way*, *Moon Over Miami*) and especially Alice Faye (*In Old Chicago*, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, *Hollywood Cantele*). But his best performance was as the dead man sent back to earth in Ernst Lubitsch's comic fantasy, *Heaven Can Wait* (1943).

Ameche also starred opposite Claudette Colbert in the classic comedy *Midnight*, which came out in 1939. She played a penniless American girl in Paris who is befriended by Ameche, a taxi driver. Ameche's time at the top proved to be relatively brief and by the 1950s his career as a Hollywood star seemed over.

He himself believed his Hollywood slide began when he refused a three-year extension on his Fox contract. He returned to the stage, appearing in several productions on Broadway, including Cole Porter's *Silk Stockings*, and twice, during the 1970s, playing Jimmy Smith in revivals of *No No Nanette*. In 1975 he was reunited with a former screen partner, Alice Faye, in a touring production of the musical, *Good News*.

From 1959 he worked regularly in television, having his own show, with the band singer, Frances Langford, and acting as ringmaster in a long running series about circuses. He was also in several made-for-television films. A man who kept himself fit and spent his money wisely, Ameche was happily surprised by his come-back to the cinema. *Trading Places*, which starred Dan Aykroyd and Eddy Murphy, showed he had lost none of his polish or comic timing and, with equal relish, he took his part in *Cocoon* as one of the residents of an old people's home visited by extra-terrestrials.

He was married in 1932 and had six children.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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# Purple is the colour of money

As legislation tries to snuff out tobacco ads, Alan Mitchell reports on an industry fightback

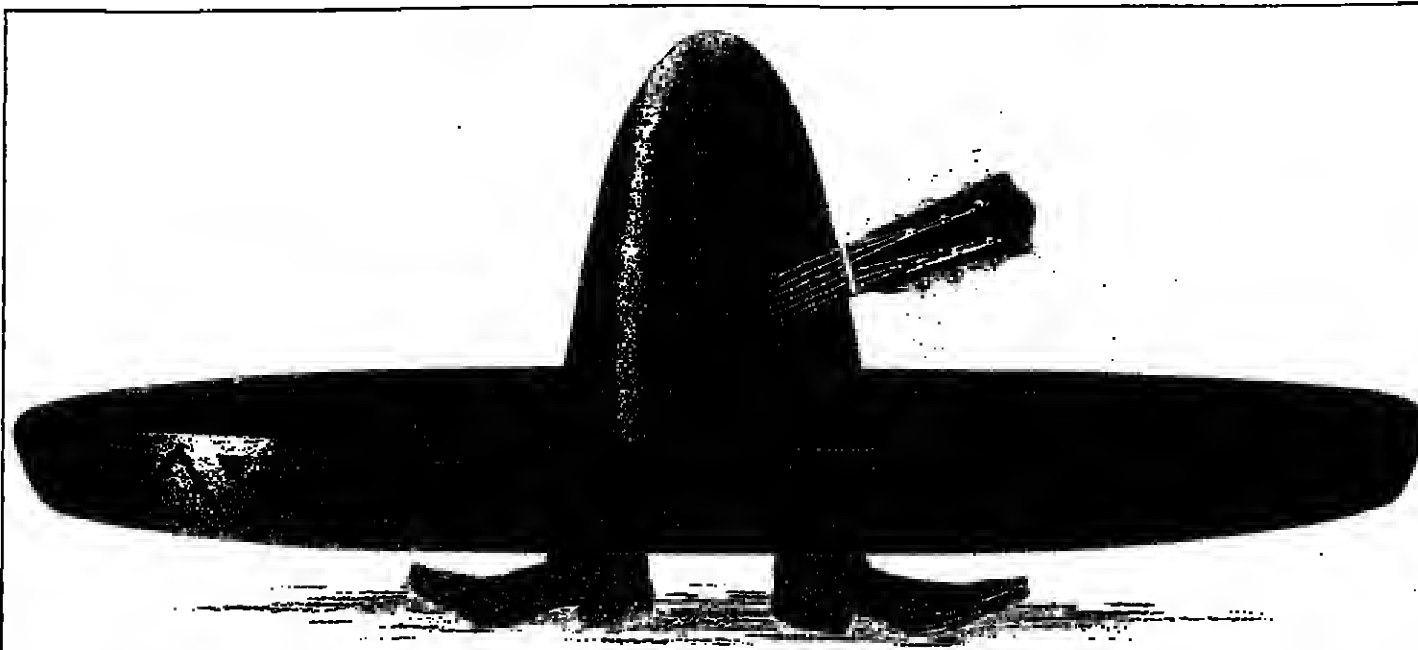
The great smoking and advertising debate is heating up again. Over the next few weeks, the European Commission is to discuss a directive to ban tobacco advertising, a private member's Bill to ban tobacco advertising in the UK will be introduced, and Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, is expected to announce the renegotiation of the voluntary agreement that governs tobacco marketing in Britain.

Although the tobacco industry insists that the £100 million it spends each year on advertising and sponsorship merely rearranges market share among existing players, health campaigners have taken on the task of convincing the public and the Government that cigarette advertising does indeed work.

Peter Middleton, Imperial Tobacco's marketing director, says: "All the evidence suggests that no amount of marketing will appeal to non-smokers. Our number one objective is to increase market share in a declining market."

But Kevin Barron, the Labour MP sponsoring the private member's Bill, argues: "The industry must replace 110,000 smokers who die every year [from smoking-related diseases]. That is what tobacco advertising is all about."

So far, the British Government



Advertisements for Gallaher's Silk Cut cigarette are being carefully associated with purple in an effort to link colours with brands

has staunchly opposed a ban on advertisements. It argues that voluntary marketing restrictions and hefty hikes in tax restrict smoking more effectively. Today, for example, a pack of 20 Embassy cigarettes selling at £2.51 has duty of £1.91. As duty levels have risen, cigarette consumption in the UK has fallen, from 120 billion a year in 1980 to less than 90 billion last year. That is a more impressive fall than in European countries that back advertising bans.

Britain's support for a voluntary approach means the 24-year EC deadline over the issue will continue, and that the UK parliamentary Bill is likely to be stillborn, even though, as David Pollock, director of the pressure group Action On

Smoking and Health (ASH), says: "In a free vote, it would command a majority in the House."

Under the current voluntary agreement, the tobacco industry is committed to reducing poster and permanent shop-front advertising by 50 per cent over the next few years. It has already acceded to a ban on cinema and video cassette ads, and on ads in magazines read by young women.

Mrs Bottomley, faced with evidence that her targets for reducing cancer and heart disease incidence will not be met, has told fellow ministers that more drastic action is needed.

Now the Department of Health has confirmed it is considering seeking a "voluntary" ban on

tobacco advertising in posters, women's magazines, and on shop fronts.

Yet as anti-advertising pressure grows, the tobacco industry has become something of a marketing innovator. For the past few years, it has been assiduously building up massive data-bases of the names and addresses of cigarette smokers and the brands they prefer. It has also begun sampling campaigns at discos, pop concerts, and railway stations.

Its communications are meanwhile becoming ever more subtle—even subliminal. Camel, the huge American cigarette brand, is now brought before the UK's public eye in the guise of a shoe—a successful product in its own right. Marlboro

has opened a shop in London's Covent Garden selling Philip Morris's Marlboro-branded non-tobacco products.

The tobacco companies are also trying to link type faces, designs or colours with the brands. Gallaher's Silk Cut is being carefully associated with purple, Benson & Hedges with gold, Marlboro with red: if the association between a colour or design and the brand name is strong enough, that colour or design can, they hope, send brand messages without any actual appearance by the brand name.

Mr Pollock says: "A strong case can be made that the cryptic ads used by the industry are more effective because they are much more engaging."

## Watchdog barks out its message

The ASA wants to be better known

The Advertising Standards Authority, the watchdog over the 30 million advertisements produced each year, is to promote itself in January with its own advertising campaign.

Caroline Crawford, an ASA executive, explains, however, that as consumer culture grows more sophisticated, the ASA is monitoring advertising long before complaints arrive.

The public has in the past been asked to approach the ASA, Miss Crawford says, "but we also undertake a lot of active work ourselves and we want to emphasise that we have this active role, not just one that is reactive to complaints."

The ASA hopes that all the space it uses in print and on poster sites will be donated by media owners. "We're looking for much more before the campaign starts on January 4," she adds.

The creative work is by Burditt Weinreich Bryant Clients & Co. and the media buying by the London Media Group. Both have been undertaken without payment. Hugh Burditt, Burditt's chairman, and London Media's Bob Blanchford sit on the ASA's advertising practice committee.

The ASA, now 31 years old, is funded by a 0.1 per cent levy made on all display-advertising expenditure. Last year, its 60 members of staff dealt with 11,000 complaints, and 600 advertisements were withdrawn.

Miss Crawford says: "We have a sophisticated monitoring and statistical sampling operation, and it's easy to spot adverts which have some obvious fact missing, such as

the closing date for a special offer. We also monitor certain sectors particularly closely, such as alcohol advertising."

However, health product advertising is now the most worrying area.

The ASA's powers are surprisingly strong. "We have a wide range of sanctions," she says. "Publishers won't carry ads if they break our codes. In 97 per cent of cases, advertisers will change an ad if it transgresses. On the rare occasions when they won't we can ask the publishers of the advert to invoke the code."

"This can take place within 24 hours, although normally we would give the advertiser longer so they can respond to our criticisms."

With persistent offenders, the ASA can pass on its report to the trading standard authorities or, finally, the police. It also offers much pre-publication advice, particularly in sensitive areas such as cigarette or alcohol advertising.

The ASA campaign will not be targeting specific advertising sectors because, Miss Crawford says, "We don't want to imply one part of the industry is at fault."

So how will this campaign be judged? "We do research every two or three years," says Miss Crawford, "and at the moment with unprompted recall, about 30 per cent of the population know who we are [with prompted recall this figure is 69 per cent]. We want to improve this."

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هكذا من الأصل



# A proper press for a public princess

Roy Greenslade on the curious reasoning behind the royal retreat

In the days when women wished to retreat into a nunnery they did not usually call on every scribe in the land to act as witnesses. They might well have thought that to make a public announcement of their decision to resign their public duties was nonsensical.

Not so the Princess. She chose the limelight to bow out of the limelight, the first contradiction of many in this strange saga.

The media were summoned to hear that the media were to blame. The ambiguities in her statement — omitting, for instance, any reference to her husband — were bound to stimulate rather than stifle speculation.

She complained of "overwhelming" press scrutiny, but was not above manipulating newspapers for her own ends. It was supposedly media pressure which led her to withdraw from public duties.

Yet the press has never been a problem for Princess Diana in her public role. Her various appearances at hospitals, factories, film premieres and state banquets are always tightly orchestrated.

A phalanx of photographers may look threatening but the reality is otherwise. They cannot be said to be intrusive, held back behind barriers and snapping away for a few blinding moments as she enters or leaves a function.

Only one photographer, chosen on a rota system, is allowed closer access, and his or her activities are closely monitored. Nobody has abused that trust on such occasions and, except for one minor skirmish with a pushy freelance, she has never been

known to show annoyance. The only upsetting photographic intrusions have all occurred outside her public duties, during her holidays or, notoriously, when exercising in a private health club.

One other major breach of her privacy — the tape-recording of a telephone conversation — was also nothing to do with her public role.

Indeed, it can be argued that the advantage for the Princess of Wales in carrying out public duties is that the repetitious nature of such photographs has led to diminishing press interest.

Some of the regular Diana-watching journalists admit that she has not been drawing



The Princess of Wales after last week's announcement

large crowds in recent months. Freelance photographers have found it hard to market their pictures, especially since she has tended to scurry past them of late, often wearing "old" outfits.

Magazine editors also report that the days of guaranteeing extra sales through publishing the Princess's picture on a front cover are long gone. A scarcity of public appearances is bound to reverse that trend, leading to the very opposite of her supposed intention.

It will also place pressure on the tabloids to behave in a way alien to their tradition and their instincts.

That is why Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers, publisher of the *Daily Mail* and the *Mail on Sunday*, has quickly issued a warning to editors.

As chairman of the Press Complaints Commission (PCC) code of conduct committee, he has reminded them not to buy or publish pictures of the Princess if taken by rogue paparazzi who ignore the rules.

But his position is also riven

with the kind of contradictions which bedevil the debate about how newspapers should react. He has emerged as an admirer of the Princess, and sympathised with her statement.

In one memorable passage she said: "I was not aware of how overwhelming that [media] attention would become; nor the extent to which it would affect both my public duties and my personal life, in a manner that has been hard to bear."

How then does Sir David square his endorsement of that comment with the fact that his own *Daily Mail* devoted 22 pages on Saturday to the subject, far more than any other newspaper?

It was a perfect illustration of the dilemma that faces

every tabloid editor: if coverage of the Princess's plight sells papers, how does one refrain from going over the top?

With papers struggling for sales, the coming months will test the resolve and nerve of all editors. What will happen if they hear a rumour that a rival is about to publish pictures they have rejected?

This could prove a real test for the PCC, and its occasionally eccentric chairman, Lord McGregor. The survival of self-regulation might depend on him acting as a neutral go-between to prevent rumour causing an editor to misbehave.

Not that this should give hope to MPs who argue that it is time for a privacy law. If the Princess of Wales has been hounded from public life it has, on balance, precious little to do with the media.

● The author is a former editor of the *Daily Mirror*.

How can children, bombarded with images, learn to distinguish reality? Gerald Isaaman argues for censorship

## Videos: it's time to turn nasty

The contradictions of life are, perhaps, its true fascination. And they are many. History excels in the march of folly, the moments when those in power stubbornly refused to accept the obvious, and disaster ensued. So it is worth posing the question whether the mass communications of today and the next millennium will create a new tower of Babel leading to chaos and confusion, rather than to coherence and what we think of as happiness.

There will soon be available the video you talk to, rather than press buttons to operate. All you do is speak into a tiny microphone and say Play or Record or whatever, and it carries out your commands. Maybe that is the answer for parents who can't control what their children see on the screen. Who knows?

The television screen is undoubtedly the great educator, informer and entertainer. But it also presents inherent dangers, as Orwell forecast. In particular in its ability to change (as it has done) the way people perceive the world. It alters the concepts of the young from those stimulated by experience and the written/spoken word, which create their own unique images, to a culture more stimulated and manipulated by pictures.

And the problem here is that fact and fantasy go into the same melting pot. The camera does lie, if you want it to, and there is money in the lying.

We teach our children, almost automatically, how to cross the

road safely, never to accept sweets from strangers, to beware of smoking, drugs, drink and much else taken in excess, but not, alas, about brainwashing of a virtually voluntary variety that in wartime would be recognised as the work of some latter-day evil genius like Goebbels.

That may sound like the overstatement of the year, but how is it that babies only a few months old can be sat in front of a machine showing flickering pictures to keep them amused and out of harm's way, as if they were sucking some visual lollipop? How do they tell what is real? What is right and wrong? How do they recognise murder as unacceptable when it is portrayed as some everyday sanitised event, and they never see the consequences of outrageous violence?

Most children nowadays see more murders in a year watching television and videos than they could ever contemplate reading books, magazines and newspapers. Yet, despite all the available evidence, let alone common sense, this brainwashing is accepted unequivocally, apart from a few sensible voices, until some shocking incident such as the Bulger case strikes so many hearts and consciences, producing a crescendo of moral panic about the state of society that has been too obvious for too long.

Why else should the late author of *Clockwork Orange* demand self-censorship? He was no Hampstead trendy, more a man who recognised that the tortures of war — and the media in general have relented in reporting the sickening excesses



Parallels were drawn between the character of Chucky in the video *Child's Play 3* (above), and the James Bulger case

of Bosnia — can be enacted in peacetime due to commercial and prurient market forces.

There was no television in our house from the time our son was two until he was 14, and all three of us survived happily. Indeed, when the Americans landed on the moon we hired a set to see this momentous occasion. Yet in the office next day nobody had sacrificed their sleep to watch history in the

making; all were quite content with action replay.

Video nasties pander to inane cruelty and brutality. They plague innocent and receptive minds in the name of entertainment and enjoyment — certainly not enlightenment. Violence may be in our genes, but if we claim to be civilised and not in some classic decadent mode, we have to control and discipline it with something more

effective than wishy-washy legislation that sits on the shelf unused.

In Strasbourg almost a decade ago, I watched along with British MEPs clips of inhumane videos about which we should have turned nasty long before they arrived here. It was then that I changed my views on censorship, voluntarily.

At least now the serious debate has begun. Freedom of expression is one thing none will deny;

freedom to abuse and pervert is another. There is always a fine line, which is why society lurches one way or the other, either taking draconian measures or allowing excesses. We do have to find a reasonable and reassuring way ahead through our contradictions.

● The author is editor of the *Hampstead and Highgate Express* and a member of the Press Complaints Commission.

## Game to be a sponsor

THE Independent Television Commission today publishes its revised code on sponsorship which includes new rules under which betting and gaming organisations can sponsor television programmes. The first programme to go out under such a deal is the travel show *Wish You Were Here* made by Central and Thames and sponsored by Vernons Pools.

Questions will now be raised by the bookies about rules which prevent them buying television advertising airtime. Some are peeved that the National Lottery will be allowed to run television commercials when it is launched in 1994/95, but they will not. The Heritage Department explains that the lottery involves no skill and is for public benefit, and therefore does not count as gambling.

## 30 years already?

ANOTHER month, another anniversary. Following hard on the heels of *Blue Peter's* 35th birthday and *Dr Who's* 30th, *Top of the Pops* will be celebrating its 30th anniversary with a special tribute on Radio 1 to be broadcast on January 2. The programme started in 1964 in a deconsecrated church in Rushmore, Manchester, with Jimmy Savile as DJ and guests Dusty Springfield, The Beatles and the Dave Clark Five.

## A dog is for ever

A SERIES of highly charged and emotional radio commercials for the RSPCA made by the advertising agency Abbon Mead Vickers BDO swept the board at this week's Commercial Radio Awards 1993. The gold prize for the best overall advertisement went to an ad looking at life from the perspective of a dog that has been given as an unwanted Christmas present. Unmoved, guests at London's Grosvenor House Hotel chatted noisily throughout the ceremony.

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11.00 Remind the speakers at next week's conference that we need their documentation by tomorrow lunch time - book the printer NOW.

12.30 Run out for a sandwich.  
12.45 Start making research calls for new conference topic ("What is Business Process Re-engineering anyway?")

3.15 Finalise last speakers; make finishing touches to the copy, design the front cover of the brochure; prepare colour split.  
5.00 Brief the printer and confirm print quantities, delivery dates etc.  
5.30 Meet with the Divisional Manager to discuss research findings so far on new topic.  
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# THE TIMES

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

## BT video plan runs into OfTel warning

By Philip Bassett  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BT is to test-market its planned video-on-demand service in the spring, and is making early moves in advance of that to secure approval for the service from the industry's regulatory body.

But OfTel, the regulator, gave a warning there would be no change to the present restrictions on BT and other phone operators from carrying entertainment services before the year 2001.

BT's move, under which films and other video programming would be transmitted down a BT phone line, could prompt legal action from cable, satellite and current video operators. Such operators are increasingly moving into the phone market.

Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, announced yesterday that BT is about to start field trials of the service, where a customer would be able to request a film or another item that would then be transmitted via a phone line to the customer's TV set to be watched when the customer chose. If technical trials go well, BT plans then to begin test-marketing the service in about March to about 25,000 customers.

Speaking to a telecommunications industry conference in London, Mr Vallance defined the potential market widely, saying that the phone network was now an alternative to book and periodical publishers, cinemas, broadcasters, video rental shops, record and CD stores and video and film-makers.

BT is to hold talks next month with OfTel on a range of multi-media activities, including video-on-demand, in the first clear move to obtain full regulatory approval.

Don Cruickshank, Director-General of Telecommunications, denied speculation about any change to the restrictions on BT and other phone operators from carrying entertainment services. He reaffirmed OfTel's intention that there should be no such change before 2001, as provided for in the Government's 1991 duopoly White Paper.

Paid under fire, page 24  
Pennington, page 25



David Rowland, left, Lloyd's chairman, and Peter Middleton, chief executive, giving details yesterday of the plan to help names bear their massive losses

## Lloyd's unveils £900m compensation package

By Sarah Bagnall  
INSURANCE  
CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London yesterday offered £900 million to more than 21,000 names in compensation for £5.5 billion of losses incurred up to the 1990 year of account. The offer, six months in the making, was immediately rejected out of hand by leading action group chairmen who labelled it "inadequate" and an "absolute joke".

The bulk of names are being offered less than £100,000 each, and 1,500 names are being offered nothing. At the other end of the scale are some 40 names who are being offered £750,000 to £1 million, and more than 100 names being offered £500,000 to £750,000. Lloyd's is also limiting its offer to two-thirds of a name's overall claimed losses.

Mario-Louise Burrows, of the Lime Street Action Group, which represents some of the

**Action group leaders are urging names to reject a compensation offer that Lloyd's says is stretching resources to the maximum. Future losses will not be capped**

hardest hit names, said: "This offer is not going to scrape my names off the bottom. It will just reduce them from being three times over to being just one time over. We have 69 names who are litigating for more than £1 million; they are still just after an offer of two-thirds."

Lloyd's has sent individual offers to names on 30 syndicates, covering more than 100 syndicate-years. Peter Middleton, chief executive, said: "We were dealing with 700,000 separate syndicate participations in all. It was very complicated. This was a Rubik's cube with a seventh side."

He added that the offer of £900 million, of which £450 million is estimated to have

come from Lloyd's central fund, had "stretched the society's resources as far as we could. This is really the maximum the society can afford at this stage of its history."

However, Michael Deeny, of the Gooda Walker Action Group, said: "It is unlikely that this offer will be acceptable to names, not just Gooda Walker names." Referring to the errors and omission insurers' estimated contribution of £400 million, he said: "The figure suggested by the financial panel was £700 million. This could have been matched by Lloyd's taking the total to more than £1.4 billion."

The payouts favour the hardest hit and those with legal cases due in court first.

While it covers all names on the 30 syndicates, it offers litigating names an extra £1 for every £2 offered to non-litigants. Names who issued writs before the end of October get an extra 20 per cent, while names on more than one LMX or stop-loss syndicate get an extra 10 per cent for every syndicate participation after the first.

One major disappointment is that the offer fails to offer names a cap on any future deterioration in their losses — in sharp contrast to the E&O insurers. If the offer is accepted, Centrewrite, a Lloyd's company, will protect E&O insurers from any further litigation. Christopher Stockwell, chairman of the Lloyd's Names Association Working Party, the umbrella organisation for all action groups, said: "It's wrong. E&O underwriters get capped, but names do not."

Mr Middleton said he had the greatest respect for action

group chairmen involved in the settlement initiative. "I know that if they feel they can't accept the offer then it is because it is in the best interest of their names," he said. Names have until the end of January to accept the offer; if they do, it will lead to the issuance of a special credit from which various deductions will be made before left-overs are handed to names.

Pennington, page 25  
Take the money? page 27

## Tax rises may dent pace of recovery

By Janet Bush  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE recovery could pause next year when the huge package of Lamont and Clarke tax increases hits the economy, the Treasury's chief economic adviser acknowledged.

Alan Budd told the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee that his forecast for economic growth next year of 2½ per cent had factored in the possibility of such a setback. But he added that the recovery had so far been "remarkably smooth" and said the Treasury believed growth would continue despite tax increases coming into effect in April.

Tax rises announced in March by Norman Lamont and by Kenneth Clarke last week mean the economy will have to absorb the effect of £8.4 billion in higher taxes next year and £15.2 billion in 1995. Taking all the tax increases announced this year together, the tax cuts of the 1980s have all been reversed.

It was also revealed that the Treasury has based its forecasts for public spending on an assumption of a 2.75 million headline unemployment total, lower than the 3 million assumed last year. According to Joseph Halligan, a senior Treasury official, this in itself allowed a £750 million cut in forecast spending on unemployment before changes to benefit payments. In October, unemployment fell by 49,000 to 2.86 million.

The Treasury also said that it expects a net funding requirement next year in the "high 30s" of billions of pounds.

Sterling briefly breached the \$1.50 level yesterday, but then dipped back to end at \$1.4952. The pound's trade-weighted index closed at 81.6, down from Moody's finish at 82, and sterling lost nearly a pence against the mark.

BUSINESS EDITOR  
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS  
TODAY

D DAY

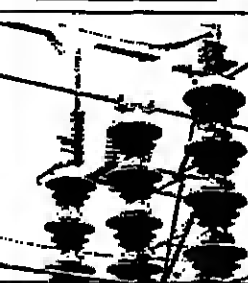
Gas

British Gas looks less likely to be broken up but more likely to face stiff competition, when its fate is announced soon  
Page 30

SAD DAY

BT described a Franco-German state telecoms alliance as "a sad day for Europe"  
Page 24  
Pennington 25

HAPPY DAY



Two more electricity distributors raised dividends by double figure amounts. One of them is offering rebates  
Page 25

DAY TO DAY

The rush of new companies seeking a stock market quote continues. Three more take the plunge.  
Page 26

## Filing lists Viacom buying

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

SUBSTANTIAL numbers of Viacom shares were bought by the company's chairman and his associates in the two months before and in the three weeks following the launch of its bid for Paramount Communications.

Documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission show that the Chicago-based pinball and video games maker WMS Industries, where Summer Redstone, the Viacom chairman, owns 24.9 per cent, bought around 500,000 Viacom B shares at an estimated cost of \$27 million.

A spokesman for WMS was not immediately available for comment. A Viacom spokes-

man said yesterday: "Neither Mr Redstone, nor Viacom nor anyone associated with Viacom had any knowledge of these purchases until now."

The price of Viacom's shares was a crucial part of the overall valuation in the early days of its offer for Paramount, announced on September 12.

The WMS purchases were made in the last week of September and the first two weeks of October, giving it a 2.5 per cent stake and representing 20 per cent of the total trading volume during that three-week period.

At the time, Paramount was the subject of a higher offer from QVC Network. Louis

Nicasro, the WMS chairman, is reported to have said that he thought Viacom a good long-term buy and never consulted or informed Mr Redstone of his purchases.

Viacom said that Mr Redstone does not sit on the WMS board and takes no part in its decisions.

Filings show that between June 4 and August 4, Mr Redstone and associates at his National Amusements Inc company, which owns 70 per cent of Viacom, bought almost a million shares in Viacom. Mr Redstone or National Amusements also bought 526,700 Viacom A and B shares in the two months ending August 20.

## MAM calling tune in £575m bid for LWT

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

MERCURY Asset Management, the fund manager, could decide the fate of LWT (Holding), the London weekend television contractor now fighting off a £575 million hostile takeover bid from Granada Group.

MAM has a 17.4 per cent stake in Granada and 14.7 per cent of LWT, so the group will win whatever the outcome of the bid. But market sources think MAM would prefer to avoid the embarrassment of a decision either way and is likely to be pushing Granada to go a few pence more and sew up an agreed bid.

Sources close to MAM,

therefore, were yesterday playing down reports that it had already chosen to throw its weight behind the bid at the current level of 56p in new Granada shares. LWT slipped 8p to 578p by last night's close as the market still looked for a slightly higher offer.

Granada has turned up the pressure on LWT by the unusual step of issuing its formal offer document hours after the bid was declared. It arrived at institutions yesterday, shortening the normal bid period by a week or so. First closing date is December 29, and the defence document must go out within a fortnight.

STOCK MARKET		THE POUND		GOLD	
 FT-SE 100 3237.3 No Change	 DOW JONES 3713.29 +3.08 Midday trading figure	 Dm 2.5451 -0.0114	 US \$ 1.4952 -0.0038	 \$375.30 per oz	 BRENT CRUDE \$13.80 per barrel (Jan) 8pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES

MARKETS IN DETAIL PAGE 26, SHARE PRICES PAGE 28

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# Vallance attacks Franco-German telecom alliance

By COLIN NARBROUGH  
AND PHILIP BASSITT

THE state-owned telecommunications companies of Germany and France have agreed to form a strategic alliance to provide future-oriented services for business in a global market.

Deutsche Telekom and France Télécom unveiled their alliance yesterday at a news conference in Brussels, future home of their joint venture, which aims to achieve 1.5 billion ecu sales in 1995, its first year of operation.

To coincide with the Franco-German announcement, Deutsche Telekom revealed that the alliance was already talking to AT&T, the American telecoms group, and Japan's NTT, with a view to jointly offering services to big international companies.

Jain Vallance, BT chairman, who has been campaigning vigorously to draw attention to the threat the Franco-German partnership poses, told a London conference that the alliance announcement was a "sad day for Europe".

He insisted, however, that BT was unafraid of the competitive threat.

The alliance aims to offer one-stop shopping to streamline and package communications services for companies with operations in several countries. Such tie-ups have long been expected and the

**■ The competitive threat to BT posed by a Franco-German joint venture in telecommunications would increase if America's AT&T joins the fray**

Franco-German link-up was well-flagged.

Marcel Roulet, president of France Télécom, and Helmut Rieke, the management board chairman of Deutsche Telekom, signed a memorandum of understanding to seal the 50-50 alliance, which builds on an existing joint subsidiary, Eunetcom. The goal is to create a more powerful team in readiness for the opening of national telecoms markets to competition in 1998, as required by the European Community.

Herr Rieke said: "One thing is certain, development is really starting in the global telecommunications market". He saw the market moving rapidly towards the vision of a global village. The new venture will merge the two companies' data communications and other business communications services.

City analysts said that BT had little to fear in the near term from the Franco-German partnership, but they foresaw a greater threat if AT&T is brought into the alliance. BT and AT&T have long been viewed as major combatants in the global telecoms market.

BT, which is pressing for early liberalisation of the European telecommunications market, attacked the move, which it regards as fundamentally anti-competitive.

Re-emphasising that the European market should be fully liberalised earlier than the EC's planned timetable of 1998, Mr Vallance said that developments across the Channel were now causing him concern, especially since proposals for full liberalisation had not yet even been tabled.

He attacked Brussels' vision of the telecommunications industry as "disturbingly utility-based", and said that Brussels involvement was now beginning to resemble "supra-national regulation of a set of national network monopolies" rather than a global regulatory vision, which was what was required for the future.

Mr Vallance said that "by delaying competition, the Community threatens to drive us as Europeans back into the first age" of telecommunications, before liberalisation.

Pennington, page 25



Robert Crandall said a strike lost 1.3 million passengers

## American Airlines heads for huge loss

By PHILIP ROBINSON  
AND COLIN NARBROUGH

AMERICAN Airlines, battling for better access to Heathrow, gave warning yesterday that it will make a big loss in the final three months of this year and dive into the red for the year as a whole.

Robert Crandall, American chairman, said the five-day strike by 21,000 cabin crew lost 1.3 million passengers and will cost a net \$160 million in the fourth quarter.

The fall in post-tax earnings means the third straight year of losses for American, which went \$935 million into the red last year. In the final three months, the airline, America's largest, lost \$200 million.

Meanwhile, United Airlines, America's second biggest carrier, has called on London and Washington to take a step-by-step approach to end the deadlock over liberalising air services between the UK and US, rather than risk a breakdown. America has threatened to prevent British Airways from increasing access to the huge US domestic market via its stake in USAir to raise the pressure for a "fair" deal in bilateral air links, with more access to Heathrow, Europe's main hub airport, the prize sought by US carriers.

BA said UAL's position appeared to be broadly in line with its own. It too wanted an open skies deal, but considered a "phased introduction" the best course.

### BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Two more lenders cut mortgage rates

ABBEY National, the second-largest lender, has cut its mortgage rate by 0.25 of a percentage point in response to the half-point cut in base rates two weeks ago. The new rate for borrowers with loans of between £60,000 and £99,999 falls to 7.64 per cent, while the rate for loans above £100,000 is 7.54 per cent. Those with loans of less than £60,000 will pay 7.74 per cent. Rates fall immediately for new borrowers, and from January 10 for existing borrowers. The reduction will mean a saving of £8.85 per month for a borrower with a loan of £50,000. Savers' rates are also set to fall.

Alliance & Leicester, the fourth-largest building society has cut its mortgage rate by a slightly larger 0.35 of a percentage point to 7.64 per cent with immediate effect for new borrowers and from the new year for existing borrowers. Midland Bank's new standard rate is 7.74 per cent, a reduction of 0.25 of a percentage point.

## Record shares turnover

TURNOVER on the London stock market reached a record during November when trading in domestic and overseas securities reached £110.5 billion, exceeding the previous record of £109.3 billion in August this year. The figure was bolstered by the large number of companies seeking a public listing. Trading in UK equities totalled £2.6 billion during November, the busiest month since July 1987, when turnover reached £57.3 billion. Market report, page 26

## Tunstall races ahead

PRE-TAX profits at Tunstall Group, the emergency communications and security systems group, advanced 22.3 per cent to £6.47 million in the year to September 30, on turnover ahead 23.7 per cent to £44.8 million. Earnings increased 22.7 per cent to 26.5p a share. An improved final dividend of 4.5p (3.75p) makes a 7p total for the year, up 16.7 per cent on last time. The company has also proposed a one-for-one capitalisation issue. The shares added 20p to 573p.

## Border denies bid talk

BORDER Television has taken the opportunity of its interim figures to rein in speculation of a round of further bids for regional ITV companies and denied that the company is in talks to acquire another franchise or to be taken over. Pre-tax profits from Border rose from £519,000 to £802,000, helped by lower redundancy costs — at the operating level they were 4 per cent higher at £937,000. The interim dividend is up from 1.5p to 1.6p.

## A 57 fall for Heinz

NET profits H J Heinz, the food company, dropped 57 per cent in the second quarter once assets sales of £127 million are stripped out: the net figure fell to \$66 million (\$154 million). At the operating level, before tax and interest, profits dropped 16 per cent from \$261 million to \$220 million. Sales for the quarter were up 4 per cent to \$1.8 billion and for the half year, by 3 per cent to \$3.4 billion. Heinz shares eased 50 cents on Wall Street to \$36.5, close to its low for the year.

## AG Holdings at £2.9m

AG HOLDINGS, which came to the market in June, reported pre-tax profits of £2.9 million in the year to July 31, on turnover of £15.9 million. This compares with a profit of £1.25 million in the six months to July 31, 1992. The company's products are mainly used for storing, transporting and dispensing cable and wire rope. Earnings stood at 11.4p a share for the year and there is a proposed dividend of 2p, as forecast in the group's listing particulars.

## Good year for Eurocopy

EUROCOPY, the photocopier supplier, boosted full-year pre-tax profits by 54 per cent to £2.62 million. The company said its £3.74 million cash pile leaves it well-placed for bolt-on acquisitions. Michael Armitage, finance director, added that as the country moved out of recession more companies would replace ageing office equipment. In the year to September 30, earnings per share were 3.60p (2.32p). A final dividend of 1.2p makes a 1.70p total (1.60p).

## Few takers for venture cash hoard

By PATRICIA TEHAN  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S biggest venture capital group, 3i, has £800 million of medium and long-term funds available for investment, but claims there is little sign of demand.

Profits doubled in the six months to September 30 to £37.6 million, helped by a 15.6 per cent increase in dividend flows from 3i's 3,500 investments to £51.4 million. The company made 264 investments worth £138 million in the six month period.

Profits were also assisted by a 12 per cent reduction in operating costs and a £13.7 million turnaround from net interest payable of £11.3 million to net interest receivable of £2.4 million, as borrowing came down and interest rates fell.

Sir George Russell, the new chairman, said: "We have yet to see much evidence of demand picking up for our capital, particularly for financing capital projects in the UK."

Net asset value has increased by 10 per cent since the end of March to 618p a share. 3i is paying a 4.7p interim, up 42 per cent.

## UK citizens 'need two pensions'

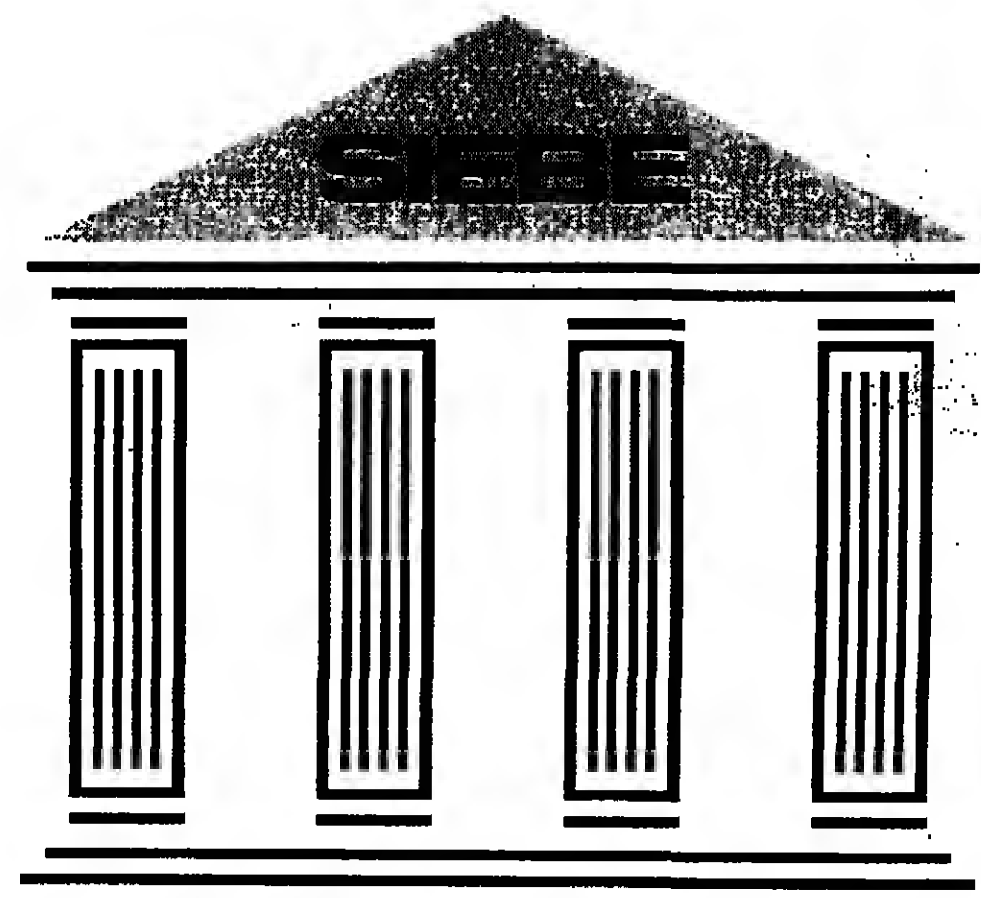
By JANET BUSH

ALL British citizens should own two pensions — one from the state, the other from the private sector — according to a report by Frank Field, the Labour chairman of the Select Committee on Social Security, and Jonathan Hoffman of Credit Suisse First Boston.

The report, contained in a book called "A Recovery Strategy for Europe", further argues that the mixed pensions system that has been evolving in Britain is "the strongest offer" in the EC. The mixed system involves a universal state scheme run in harness with funded company or personal pension schemes.

The authors say restrictions on private pensions, rife in continental Europe, must be dismantled if governments are to tackle their public sector deficits in the long term. Apart from helping budget deficits, the authors say liberalising pension assets and developing fully portable private pensions will boost growth by promoting labour mobility and radically improving the allocation of savings.

□ A Recovery Strategy for Europe is published by Federal Trust, price £9.95.



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Barrie Stephens, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Results for the six months to September 30, 1993	1993	1992	% change
Turnover (£m)	895.3	757.3	+18.2
Profit before tax (£m)	94.2	80.3	+17.3
Earnings per share (pence)	13.6	11.7	+16.2
Dividend per share (pence)	3.66	3.3275	+10.0
Gearing (%)	56.2	68.7	-12.5

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□ Forte's Ciga deal shrouded in Milanese fog □ Oftel outlook too domestic □ Why Lloyd's settlement is the only offer in town

## A not-so-easy Italian job

IF ONLY because of his ancestry, Rocco Forte must still be favourite to take over the management of Ciga, the Italian-based luxury hotel empire controlled by the Aga Khan, but it would appear that the UK's largest hotel enterprise is not having matters all its own way.

According to reports emanating from Italy, Host Marriott, the Maryland-based company that disclosed its interest in Ciga only a matter of weeks ago, is coming up fast, although, Italy being Italy, no-one seems quite sure on which rail.

Back in mid-October, Forte let it be known that, following talks with Mediobanca, the Milanese merchant bank that is attempting to restructure the heavily indebted Ciga chain, a deal was under way.

In line with Mediobanca's proposed reconstruction of Ciga, Forte would inject £33 million cash, along with certain of its own luxury hotels valued at £125 million, into an Italian operating company in return for a majority interest.

Ciga's bank debt, so the theory went, would be transferred into a property holding company in which the operating company would take a 15 per cent stake.

Speculation subsequently had it that Hyatt Hotels, led by Jay Pritzker, had shown interest and, late last month, Host Marriott

declared that it was holding discussions with Ciga "regarding a possible acquisition".

All went quiet but word — albeit unconfirmed — has filtered out of Italy that, at a little tête à tête in Milan last Friday, certain parties took the view that a deal with Marriott could well be the preferred option.

Advisers to Forte pour scorn on such tales and point out that Forte is the only company carrying out due diligence enquiries. Mediobanca, so it is said, has yet to meet Marriott.

Out of the fog of Milan, speculation has it that Marriott has made a superior offer, although quite how superior is uncertain. It is thought that Marriott is prepared to shell out funds faster than Forte, although whether the funds shelled out would be significantly higher is a moot point.

In view of the scale of Ciga's debts — estimated at £1.01 billion (£420 million) — and the chain's losses of £110 billion (£60 billion) for the first half of 1993, a little due diligence on the part of Marriott would presumably not go amiss, bearing in mind that

Marriott has precious little, if any, experience of operating in Italy.

Marriott, it may be recalled, has only just emerged from its own financial crisis: the solution being the creation of a "twin" company arrangement.

Ciga currently operates 35 of Europe's most exclusive hotels, including the Danieli in Venice, and was the driving force behind the development of Sardinia's Costa Smeralda. When Forte originally disclosed its plans, City analysts described the amalgam as a potential "dream ticket". Let us hope there is no rude awakening.

### BT has giants to kill abroad

FREE TRADE and competition have different meanings in continental Europe, vide the hard-won provisions of Blair House II. In the telecommunications business, they mean two state monopolies can combine to attack markets in the rest of the world without opening their own. Britain has uni-



laterally engineered one of the world's most open telecoms markets — an easy early target. Yet the Government agreed the Community decision not to force open state monopoly markets before 1997. Not much might happen then. Meantime, the playing field slopes steeply down towards this side of the Channel.

Yesterday's agreement between Deutsche Bundespost Telekom, the German state monopoly, and France Telecom, the French state monopoly, will create a merged business and data services combine with turnover of about £1.1 billion. More suspiciously, the partners plan to inject £750 million of investment over five years to become Europe's "global player", an ambi-

tion commercial firms might have to pace more carefully. The new grouping is already negotiating for America's AT&T to join their party. That seems to sew up a lot of potential domestic competition unless someone says non, which seems unlikely.

Britain was right to introduce competition unilaterally. Free trade need not be mutual to be beneficial, as consumers can testify. More competition from overseas utilities will soon provide even more choice in cable, telephone and entertainment. Liberalisation has also forced BT, in particular, to be much sharper and more innovative than state monopolies. BT is a formidable potential competitor abroad precisely because its skills have been honed by stiff competition at home. Even so, a policy that puts consumers first should pay compensating attention to interests of domestic firms hobbled by restrictions abroad. The government does not appear to care much what happens in the rest of the Community. There should be limits to such smugness. Subsidised competition in some markets, though just as good for

consumers in the short run, is unhealthy. Promoting competition at home by preventing BT entering new markets looks ever more questionable. It should certainly not be extended to cover markets created by new technology, such as video-on-demand, that were not thought of when BT was barred from broadcasting down phone lines until the next century. Innovation is vital for strong international competitors, and must be allowed a return.

### I name this ship 'Half a Loaf'

THE SPECTRE of the Outhwaite case, in which those names who went to court won a famous victory, hangs over Lloyd's attempt to make peace with its aggrieved underwriting members. Errors and omissions insurers knew they must offer something substantial. Names on the worst syndicates reckon that is nothing like what they might have to pay at the end of legal actions. Reactions of action group spokesmen also carry

emotional overtones. Lloyd's brokers, legally unassailable but profitable accomplices to some of the worst malpractices, are not contributing on a scale to reflect their corporate wealth or moral responsibility.

That Outhwaite precedent is, however, dangerous for all sides, revolving round an aberration by a normally highly competent underwriter. The many outstanding or putative cases are different and cover a wide spectrum from aggravated bad luck to systematic incompetence, regulatory failure and, to some people's thinking, something near conspiracy against the interests of underwriting names. Chances of legal redress vary equally widely, in winning cases, the likely scale of damages and agents' ability to pay.

Once names ponder their individual offers over a less than festive season, they will come to differing conclusions. The majority with the least demonstrably strong legal cases or further back in the legal queue will have the strongest incentive to accept. But it would amaze if the name of Lloyd's is not dragged embarrassingly through the courts on a few cases. For all its desire to get on with the future, Lloyd's new regime should accept that, and be firm with the E and O insurers, when deciding the quantum for the scheme to go ahead.



David Jones, chief executive of South Wales Electricity, left, and Andrew Walker, who succeeds him next month

## Double-figure rises fuel power firms' payout race

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

TWO more electricity distribution companies have fuelled the dividend race in the sector's interim results season with increases in payments to shareholders of well into double figures.

Midlands Electricity boosted the payment in the six months to September 30 by 20.5 per cent to 7.65p, although the company has indicated that some of the increase was to rebalance the half-way and full-year payments and suggested a rise this financial year of 14.75 per cent.

In this, Midlands has followed the example of Eastern, the first of the 12 distributors in England and Wales to report, which has already suggested that a 20 per cent higher interim figure will translate into a 14.6 per cent rise for the whole year.

South Wales Electricity has forgone any element of rebal-

ancing and increased its half-way payment by 13.6 per cent to 7.5p, while eschewing any indications of the level of the full-year payment. But market-watchers expect a corresponding increase for the year as a whole.

The dividend rise, and a powerful financial performance at the interim stage, sent Midlands shares and those elsewhere in the sector sharply ahead against the market trend. Midlands rose 20p to 673p. But South Wales failed to share in the euphoria. Its shares slid 3p to 698p.

Midlands is handing back £20 million, or £10 a typical customer, from next month and claims that, including this, prices have fallen by 10 per cent in real terms over the past year, making the company the lowest-cost electricity distributor in England and Wales. Bryan Townsend, the

chairman, said the rebate was "the simplest, most effective way of getting money back to the customer."

The company ended the half-way stage with £88 million in the bank, although this will reduce by the financial year-end.

Midlands raised pre-tax profits from £66.7 million to £89.5 million in the first half, helped by the non-recurrence of £10 million of restructuring costs last time for the retail side. The profits rise was helped by a 2.3 per cent increase in electricity units distributed, partly because of the colder summer and partly through economic recovery in the region. Mr Townsend said: "We are undoubtedly coming out of the recession, albeit slowly, and I think the West Midlands is tending to lead."

Wynford Evans, the South

Wales chairman, dismissed any rebate as "a Christmas box" for customers. His company is relying on an estimated 6 per cent price fall in real terms as it passes on savings on costs and electricity bought from the generators.

South Wales, helped by a 1.7 per cent increase in units distributed, pushed pre-tax profits ahead from £37.6 million to £44.4 million in the first half. Mr Evans said he expected the price rise over the next year to be held to the rate of inflation at most.

South Wales, the first of the distributors to have wiped out all the debt imposed at the 1989 privatisation, ended the first half with £67.6 million cash in the bank, helped by free cash flow of £33.4 million despite £25 million of government debt repaid.

Tempus, page 27

## Charter keen to buy engineering group

By NEIL BENNETT

CHARTER, the industrial group that bought its independence from Minorco this summer, is searching for an acquisition worth £270 million or more in which to invest its growing cash reserves.

Jeffrey Herbert, chief executive, is keen to buy an international engineering group as a fourth leg to the group and is looking outside Charter's rail track components, building materials and mining interests for an acquisition.

Charter has net cash of £147 million even after spending £235 million to buy back its own shares from Minorco, the international resources group, in June. Mr Herbert is also keen to issue shares for acquisition to broaden the group's equity base, and would be happy to borrow up to £120 million for expansion.

The group generated most

of its cash in the sale of its 38 per cent stake in John Matthey this year. The disposal caused a 17 per cent fall in pre-tax profits in the half year to September 30 to £31.3 million as the group was deprived of any income from JIM.

Operating profits from Charter's on-going businesses rose 5 per cent to £19.5 million. The group also made a £2.6 million profit on the sale of its limestone quarry during the period. It is holding its half-year dividend at 7p.

Mr Herbert said the US coalminers' strike had cost the group £2 million in the half-year. NMS, which supplies mining equipment, was hit by a fall in demand, and Charter also had to pay for extra security at its eight non-unionised mines in Indiana which are still operating.

Tempus, page 27

## Smith New Court profit surges 367%

By PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

A 367 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £31.3 million for the six months to October 29, bodes well for staff bonuses at Smith New Court, the securities house, Michael Marks, its chief executive, said yesterday.

Mr Marks said: "I have no problem with paying large bonuses. The recipient will have earned a return for shareholders already." Although SNC does not pay bonuses until June, after the May year-end, Mr Marks said that if current trends continue, the bonuses are likely to be attractive.

He added: "Markets have been kind to everybody in the business." In SNC's case, he said the increase in profits reflected strong revenues right across the board, with 60 per cent from overseas. The company had a particularly strong first half in all South East Asian markets and "a super

six months in New York". The £41.2 million rights issue, completed in August, was a success with 94 per cent acceptances. Together with the proceeds from the exercise of warrants and share options, the issue raised £45.1 million in cash, which is to be used to finance the next phase of the group's expansion, particularly into China and the Indian sub-continent.

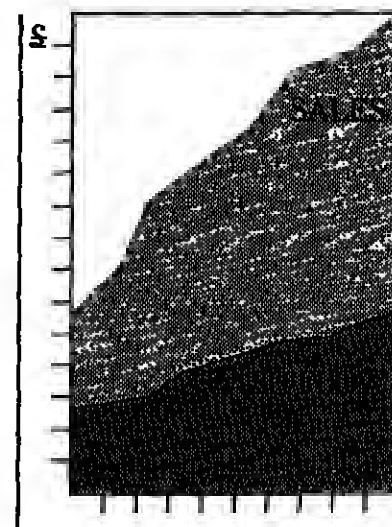
As a result of the cash-raising exercise, and net retentions for the six months, Smith's capital and reserves increased from £109.7 million at May 7 to £175.3 million.

Earnings per share soared from 6.1p to 25p. The interim dividend has been doubled to 2p, which the company said is designed in part to reduce the disparity between the interim and final dividends.

Tempus, page 27

## IS SHORTAGE OF CASH HOLDING BACK YOUR BUSINESS?

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## US and Far East offset depressed European markets

## Pound's decline boosts Siebe's profits

By CARL MORTISHED

CURRENCY gains helped Siebe, the industrial controls group, to raise pre-tax profits from £80 million to £94 million in the six months to September 30.

Siebe, which makes electronic control units for air conditioning and heating systems, earns over 92 per cent of its sales abroad and the fall in sterling against the dollar and the mark added £17 million to turnover in the first half and £10 million to profit.

The company is raising the interim dividend to 3.66p per share, up 10 per cent from last year after a 16 per cent rise in earnings per share to 13.6p.

Barrie Stephens, the chairman, who is stepping down as chief executive next year, said that some European markets were down as much as 20 per



Stephens: stepping down

cent and not expected to come back until well into next year. In contrast, North American and Far Eastern markets were strong with the exception of Japan where he expected to see a recovery in mid-1994.

Aquisitions brought in sales of £26 million and operating profits of £1.6 million during the half year. Siebe acquired Eberle and Schmidt Armaturen, German manufacturers of electronic controls, last April for £25 million.

Last month, Siebe raised £184 million in a rights issue to fund the £84 million purchase of Eckardt, another German automation and process control business. Over 85 per cent of the purchase price for Eckardt is not payable until next October.

A strong performance in North America, which now accounts for 49 per cent of group turnover, boosted profits in the Controls division from £78 million to £97 million during the period but operating margins fell half a point to 15 per cent due to the effect of acquisitions. Im-

proved market share in North America outweighed difficult conditions in Europe where Siebe was hit by recession in the automotive sector.

Sales declined by 19 per cent in Siebe's Specialist Mechanical Engineering division which sells automotive and garage equipment products. Operating margins slipped from 8.5 per cent to 5 per cent causing profits to fall from £8.5 million to £4.8 million.

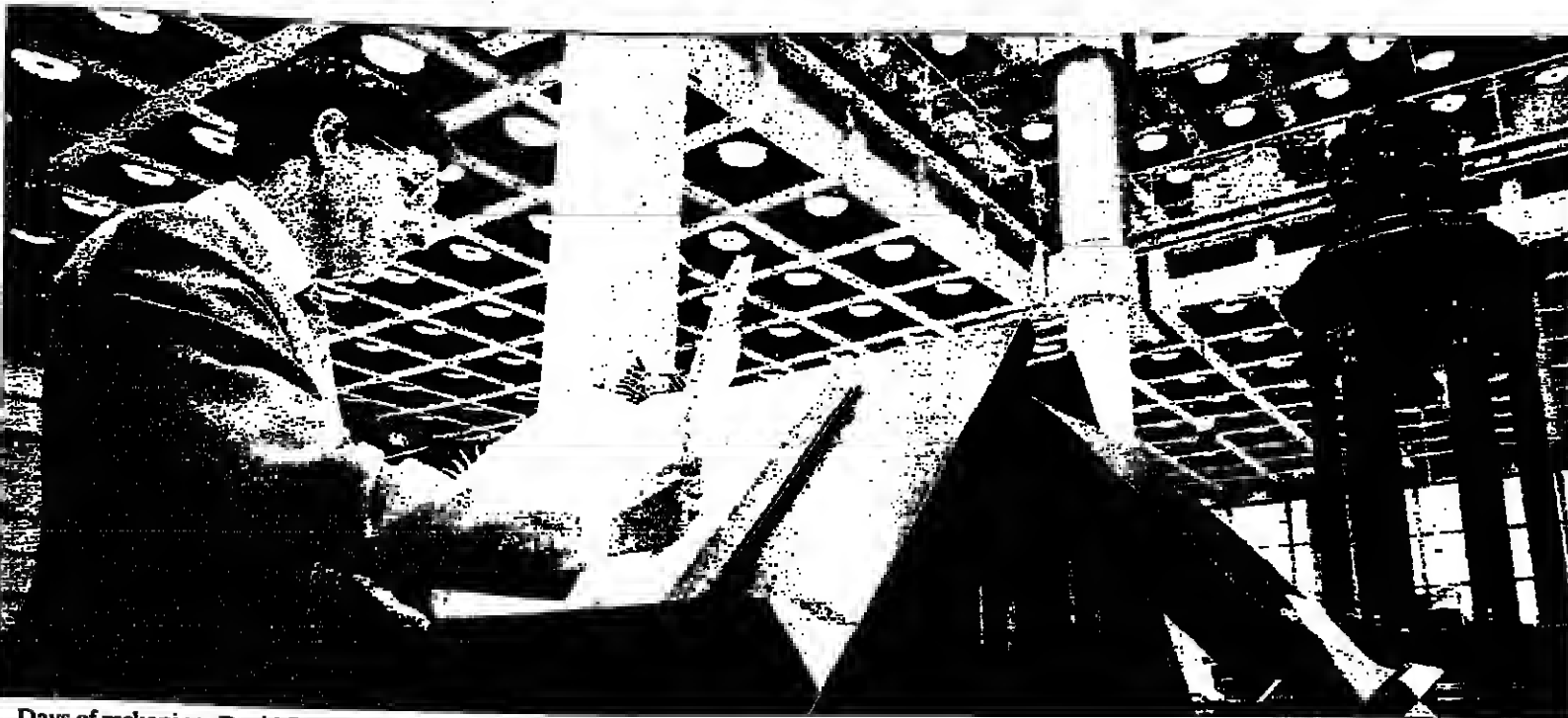
Siebe had gearing of 56 per cent at the end of September, down from 68 per cent in the previous year. The company generated £44 million in cash flow during the year, contributing to cash deposits at the end of September of £219 million while net borrowings were £478 million.

Tempus, page 27









Days of reckoning: David Burling, casualty officer, makes an entry in the Lloyd's loss book, but recent massive claims have left names contesting liability

## Can Lloyd's persuade names to take the money and stay?

Lloyd's of London faces an uphill struggle to persuade more than 21,000 loss-making names to accept the compensation offer it unveiled yesterday. The £900 million offer falls a long way short of the £3.15 billion losses against which names are making legal claims.

For some names the offer will do nothing but make them less bust — they will still be faced with heavy losses and will have little motive for voting yes. Many action groups have already spoken out, urging their names to reject the offer on the grounds that it is too small and fails to provide names with a "cap" against any future deterioration of their losses.

Names have until the end of January to weigh up the pros and cons of the offer. One price names have to pay for accepting the offer is their right to take any legal action against Lloyd's, members' agents and managing agents, the people who they accuse of landing them in their current financial predicament. Furthermore, names have to give over their right to sue other advisers, such as auditors, to Recovery, a new Lloyd's special purpose vehicle.

The compensation package of £900 million is made up of an estimated £450 million contribution from Lloyd's centrally, £400 million from errors and omissions (E&O) insurers and £50 million from the relevant Lloyd's members' and managing agents.

Although the offer fails to match names' total claims, they have been given warning in a letter from David Rowland, the Lloyd's chairman, that if they reject the offer and take the litigation route then the Lloyd's contribution would not be so off. This downside may, however, be offset by the courts awarding more from the E&O insurers — an uncertainty made less clear by the fact that the first action groups to reach court may deplete the E&O pot leaving nothing for later litigants.

The division of the £900 million between names is expected to trigger widespread disappointment and in many cases anger. Names will look uncomprehendingly at those who appear to have fared better in the carve up and will begin to question the whole methodology of the process.

As expected the offer has been heavily biased in favour of the market's hardest hit and those with legal action due to reach the court first. The offers, some of which are detailed in the table below, are subject to various adjustments. For those action groups whose

**Sarah Bagnall examines the details of yesterday's £900 million offer from the insurance market to compensate names who have suffered huge losses**

claims are time-barred or relate to run-off contracts, such as Outhwaite 2 and Merrett 421, there is a downward adjustment. Conversely, the amount offered to names on syndicates where a wrongful closure claim has been made will be increased depending on how long the name has been on a syndicate.

While the offer covers both litigating and non-litigating names, those who are members of action groups that had issued writs before October will receive an additional 20 per cent. This will benefit litigating names on Gooda Walker syndicates 164, 290, 298 and 299, Feltrim syndicates 540, 542 and 847, Merrett syndicate 417/418 and Verall (Pulbrook) syndicate 334.

Further adjustments give litigating names a 3.2 uplift irrespective of whether writs have been issued; and names on more than one LMX or spiral syndicate will get an extra 10 per cent for each syndicate participation after the first. However, the benefits of this redistribution of the total pot are limited so that no individual names receives more than two-thirds of his total loss.

Peter Middleton, Lloyd's chief executive, said: "In broad terms, more than £500,000 and £750,000 and fewer than

40 names will get between £750,000 and £1 million. The bulk of the names will clearly receive less than £100,000, but there are a couple of thousand names or more who are getting between £100,000 and £250,000. About 2,000 are getting more than £200,000."

In reaching the breakdown of the offer between names Lloyd's set up a financial panel headed by Sir Jeremy Morse, former Lloyd's Bank chairman, which calculated how much money was available from the errors and omissions underwriters to meet names' claims. A legal panel, headed by Sir Michael Kerr, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, assessed the financial strength of the 30-odd action groups' claims, ranking them as having a good, upper medium, lower medium, weak or hopeless chance of success in the courts.

The legal panel dealt with claims from 30 syndicates involving more than 100 syndicate-years. These claims were divided into three categories — LMX, long-tail and stop-loss syndicates, and miscellaneous. In the case of the 11 LMX syndicates' claims, the panel concluded that underwriters failed to "properly" perform their fundamental duty of balancing risks, a problem that was exacerbated "by the ignorance of many [maybe most] in the

market about the existence or operation of the LMX spiral".

The panel accordingly weighted the bulk of the LMX syndicates as having "strong" cases. As a result, names on Gooda Walker syndicates are being offered £234 million of the total £900 million, before adjustments that could lift the total to £300 million. This compares to the syndicates losses of £850 million.

Names on the Feltrim syndicates are being offered £208.5 million before adjustments. Both Feltrim and Gooda Walker names will benefit from the £188.3 million available to be distributed among names on more than one LMX or spiral syndicate. Mr Middleton said 2,500 names were on two spiral syndicates, 250 were on six spiral syndicates and one name was on all 11. In the case of the long-tail syndicates, the rankings fell more into the "lower medium" chance of success through litigation. Merrett syndicate 421, however, gained a "strong" ranking in relation to 1983, 1984 and 1985, and Merrett 421 in its sole claim for 1983.

Even if names accept the offer they will not get a cheque in the post for the full amount. In fact, it appears unlikely that much of the money will reach names' pockets. Lloyd's is issuing names with a "special credit", which will be held by Lloyd's and from which various deductions will be made before any leftovers are distributed.

First, any money owed to meet Lloyd's central fund debts and earmarkings will be paid, followed by any funds needed to enable a name to carry on underwriting next year and help meet his solvency test at the end of this. Finally, any stop-loss or estate-protection cover will have to be paid off.

There is no doubt that Lloyd's has worked hard to offer names a fair and affordable settlement, but its chances of being accepted look slim. There is no doubt the offer will split names, with some wanting to put an end to their pain and accept the offer while others will continue to bay for blood and will insist upon dragging as many Lloyd's professionals through the courts as possible. Which way the scales will tip is not yet certain — some of the action groups have been quick to urge their names to reject the offer but the final say rests with the individuals, some of whom are not litigating and so only stand to gain if the offer is accepted. For the offer to go unconditional, Lloyd's says more than 70 per cent of names must accept the offer.

### ALLOCATION OF SETTLEMENT FUND

SYNDICATE	NO.	YEAR	OFFER £'000s
Gooda Walker	164	1988	11,249*
Gooda Walker	290	1988	81,415*
Gooda Walker	298	1988	12,052*
Gooda Walker	299	1988	20,149*
Gooda Walker	298	1989	78,424*
Gooda Walker	299	1989	2,695*
Gooda Walker	299	1989	3,190*
Feltrim	540/542	1987	31,287*
Feltrim	540/542	1988	43,513*
Feltrim	540/542	1989	68,052*
Feltrim	540/542	1989	10,482*
Feltrim	847	1987	4,527*
Feltrim	847	1989	38,988*
Feltrim	847	1990	11,292*
Gooda Walker	337	1983	1,722
Gooda Walker	337	1984	1,433
Gooda Walker	337	1985	2,130
Gooda Walker	337	1987	1,482
Gooda Walker	337	1988	2,907
Gooda Walker	337	1989	16,234

\* denotes that additional adjustments to be made

### TEMPUS

## The power of money

THERE is something unnerving about the conspicuous display of wealth by the RECs. Midlands Electricity may describe the 20 per cent rise in its interim dividend as a rebalancing exercise with its final payout — like Eastern last week — but shareholders should still receive a full-year uplift of nearly 15 per cent, more than ten times the rate of inflation.

What is even more unsettling is the rate the RECs are accumulating cash despite such bumper payouts to shareholders and hand-outs to customers. A combination of lower fuel costs, rising cost efficiencies and the disappearance of retailing losses have converted them into the purest money machines on the stock market.

SWALEC's net cash has risen to £67.6 million, Midlands' to £88 million and even though seasonal factors will cut these by year

end, they still have more money than they know what to do with. Such riches make it almost certain that Offer will impose tougher formulae in its review of the RECs' distribution businesses next year. But unless Stephen Littlechild departs radically from the tone he set in the supply review, the formulae will not prevent the RECs continuing to milk their local monopolies for all they are worth.

But none of the RECs knows what to do with the wealth. Heavy losses from retailing have made them gun-shy about further diversification. SWALEC is investing £30 million in a cable television venture in the next four years but this will only consume a fraction of the free cash flow. Sooner or later, the RECs will be tempted into the acquisition market on a grander scale. Only then may they reveal their Achilles heels.

### Charter

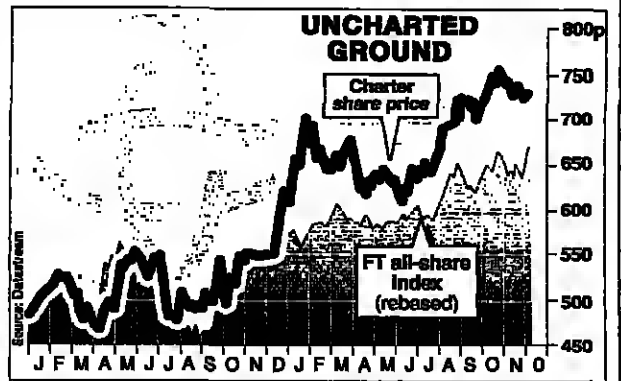
HAVING extricated itself from Minorco's clutches, Charter is learning that the outside world can be cold. Now the group's profits are no longer inflated by Johnson Matthey, its remaining businesses look pedestrian. Of the three divisions, only rail track equipment registered a profit increase. Even though the other businesses were affected with one-off items, such as the American coal strike, their potential is unexciting.

Charter desperately needs an acquisition to rekindle interest in its shares. It certainly has the resources: apart from £147 million in cash, its share buy-in deal with Minorco has left the equity base looking small, so a rights issue or a large vendor placing would be welcomed by institutions. Us-

ing cash, debt and equity the group could conceivably pay up to £500 million.

Charter's difficulty, like other acquisition seekers, is that share prices have run so high, forcing it to look in the private sector instead. Its reluctance to rush into a deal is reassuring, given the disappointing performance of Hargreaves Quarries, one of

its more recent purchases. But considering the group's success in unwinding its position with Minorco, it must be able to deliver on this latest challenge. The market certainly thinks so. The shares, at 77p, are valued at 19 times this year's forecast earnings, and it will take an attractive acquisition indeed to move them on further.



### Siebe

SINCE almost half Siebe's sales are dollar-denominated, the market was not surprised that the company's interim profits were swollen with currency gains. Indeed, institutions had been buying the stock to get exposure to a stronger dollar. The 3 per cent markdown in the shares that followed the figures seems like sour grapes but they showed little evidence of underlying growth and plenty of warnings about difficult markets on the Continent and in Japan.

The market has bid up stocks like Siebe on the back of reduced gearing and recovery hopes but the unpleasant reality of depressed capital goods and component markets in Europe and Japan is delaying the anticipated payoff.

With £44 million of net cash flow after capital expenditure, tax and dividends, shareholders should again question the necessity for last month's rights issue. Siebe's gearing would have barely exceeded 50 per cent without the acquisitions in the Spring and full payment for last

month's Eckardt deal is not due for another ten months. Companies like war chests but cash earns so little these days that the money looks surplus to requirements. Siebe could turn in £20 million in real profit growth for the full year, but the first-half performance gives little comfort.

### Chubb

THE market is beginning to doubt the growth story at Chubb, and the security group did not help its share price by coming in slightly below City expectations. That should not be enough to send a share price sliding almost 5 per cent but investors are now beginning to doubt that Chubb can live up to the rating it has enjoyed since its demerger from Racal.

Yesterday the company gave some unintentional credence to the lower growth scenario by focussing on efficiency gains rather than potential revenue growth. Chubb is now debt-free, having generated £13 million in the first half but the rating of 22 times full-year earnings may be demanding more

than the company can deliver in depressed markets.

### Ladbroke

THE cancellation of a scrip dividend will not ruin Ladbroke since it will cost only £3.5 million, but it can do nothing to restore the City's faith in the group's financial position. The company had no choice but to cancel the scrip since the shares have fallen so far. Even so, one feels that most of its shareholders would have preferred the group to retain the cash, even at the expense of a little dilution. The company must be relieved that it was not backed into such a corner with its much larger enhanced scrip dividend earlier this year.

Ladbroke badly needs to pull something out of the hat. As its shares continue to slide, the chances of holding a rights issue are dwindling. The best thing it could do is sell a large part of its property portfolio. But news about disposals is ominously scarce. Unless the City is shown otherwise, its doubts about the true value of the group's assets will remain.

### BUSINESS LETTERS

#### Sweden still keen on EC membership

From O. A. G. KEMS  
Sir, The proposed Volvo-Renault merger was obviously far too disadvantageous to the Swedish company, its workers and shareholders. Isn't it therefore ironic that Mr Pehr Gyllenhammar should apparently be the only one not seeing it as it was. And if there was more in the deal for the Swedes as Mr Gyllenhammar would want all to believe, why for heaven's sake did he not come out openly to explain? Was he merely attempting to sell out a Swedish success to French greed? Did he not seem to have taken his shareholders for granted?

The cessation of the merger is a blow to the ex-Volvo chairman's pride, but a great victory for the Swedish people. As a small country, Sweden needs EC membership in order to effectively compete in the common market. However, the defeat of the proposed merger does not in the least mean that Sweden has turned its back on Europe and the rest of the world. Certainly, the majority of Swedes are keenly looking forward to their country's admission into the EC shortly.

Though the Japanese are likely to attempt to cut a deal with Volvo in the near future, they do not constitute the only option. It is not inconceivable that other EC auto makers should be interested. After all, the UK is Volvo's largest market in Europe.

The Swedes therefore need and are willing to co-operate with international businesses. But such deals must be mutually beneficial and worth their while.

For all I know, Volvo is not an insignificant fly waiting just to be swallowed. Though it is not advisable to break three years of co-operation, Volvo will, nevertheless, sur-

#### In whose interest?

From Dr V. Goldberg  
Anatole Kaletsky is fervent in his belief that there should be a further reduction in interest rates of perhaps 2 per cent. This will undoubtedly help mortgage payers, but at the same time it will remove a source of spending power from those pensioners who have some investment income to supplement their pensions, perhaps 3 or 4 million people. Yours faithfully, Valerie Goldberg, 6 Hollycroft Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax to 071-782 5112.

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### Tipple in the reptile house

LEADERS of the pharmaceutical industry have often been accused of peddling snakeoil. But they might be in for a surprise at this evening's wine tasting hosted in Regent's Park by Magellan Medical Communications. Not only has Tom Delaney, Magellan's managing director, chosen the exotic venue of the London Zoo's reptile house, he has also selected a novel way to reward those who correctly identify the mystery beverage on sample. Those with the best palate, or nose, will be given the "privilege" of sponsoring an animal for 1994. Speculation is mounting as to who will win the prize snake. Other creatures on offer are a rat and a monkey. Among the guests will be Mike Wallace, managing director of Schering UK, Alan Walker, European president of Parke Davis, Tony Eaton of Roussel, and Dr Paul Hooper from Roche. Although businessfolk are quite used to dealing with commercial rats, snakes and sharks, coping with the real thing should be a challenge. Parliamentarians, used to animal braying from time, could also be among the sponsors. Labour MPs Stuart Randall and Paul Murphy, and Dr John Blackburn and

Roger Knapman for the Tories, have been invited too.

### Inching to fame

THE sleuths at Presswatch who add up the good and bad column inches in the national papers to assess a company's standing, have discovered that the average builder earned a rating of 28 in the third quarter this year, compared with the 15 average for all 847 companies surveyed. Recession in construction would appear to have made even builders popular, as this is the sector's best rating since the survey was started. Among the building firms there are some striking exceptions. Costain remains

nailed to the bottom of the table, with a negative rating of 124. Housebuilders clearly top the ratings, with Barrat taking over star billing from Berkeley Group as the firm with the best press. As to the company least favourable reflected, the survey was distinctly unsurprising. It was Euro Disney.

### Bank invasion

BANKING folk with an interest in modern history were doubtless amused by yesterday's remarks from Hilmar Koppar, management board chairman of the mighty Deutsche Bank, which suggested that he had no further plans

for expansion in Europe. Given Deutsche's war chest, talk of having "no intention of entering commercial banking in Europe, let alone retail banking" might sound rather hollow. After his bank's foray into Northern Italy, it would seem odd if Herr Koppar's territorial ambitions had been entirely fulfilled. Could it be that Deutsche has another continent in mind.

### Dogwatch

AFTER a lengthy break, Union Discount has restored its "UDOG" page to the Reuters screen to offer guidance on gilts from Philip Shaw, its newly-acquired economics guru. The canine ring to the page name is accidental. The letters stand simply for Union Discount On Gilts. But the name of the economist who writes the "Threadwatch" section is highly appropriate — David Baskerville.

### Name dropper

IN ITS enthusiasm to bring the glad tidings about the winner of the Hambro Businessman of the Year award, Dewi Rogerson compressed the key information in a fashion that could set a trend. Why name the winner and his company separately? "Sir Christopher Courtauld" was given as the winner on the header page of

the fax. Courtauld certainly has a better ring to it than Sir Christopher's real name, Hogg. But might I suggest that "Sir Christopher Reuter-Courtauld" might be more appropriate for the chairman of the two distinguished firms.

### Healthy Short

ALEC McRitchie, director of public relations at Short Brothers, whose company was described as "struggling" in these columns on Wednesday, has kindly pointed out that since privatisation in 1989, and takeover by Bombardier, the Canadian group, Shorts has become one of Britain's most profitable aerospace groups. Despite the recession, the firm showed a £28.2 million pre-tax profit in its last financial year. With 000 interims to reveal progress this year, one must rely on the company's own forecast concerning current health. This year's profits, Mr McRitchie assures me, will be "broadly in line" with last year.

AMERICAN mail order firms are offering Christmas gifts for pampered pooches. A velvet pyjama suit will set the bigger back £160, while hand-crafted diamond ear-rings (bitches only) are a snip at £180.

COLIN NARBROUGH



"I'm afraid our compensation fund offer has been rejected."







ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began November 29. Dealings end December 10. §Contango day December 13. Settlement day December 20. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High Low Company				Price				Net Yld % P/E			
715	940	Low	111	...	11.0	12	35.4	...	...	...	...
716	104	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
717	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
718	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
719	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
720	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
721	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
722	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
723	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
724	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
725	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
726	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
727	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
728	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
729	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
730	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
731	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
732	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
733	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
734	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
735	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
736	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
737	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
738	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
739	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
740	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
741	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
742	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
743	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
744	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
745	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
746	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
747	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
748	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
749	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
750	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
751	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
752	121	Deere	251	...	1.0	1.0	3.3	...	...	...	...
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# Where the write stuff wins

Can't sell your house? Organise an essay competition.  
**Jamie Dettmer reports on the latest American wheeze**

Fancy a 2,750 square-foot three-bedroom house in Summit Valley adjacent to California's San Bernardino national forest for the knock-down price of a mere \$50 (about £39)? What about for just \$100, an ocean-front home with George and Barbara Bush for neighbours in swanky Kennebunkport, Maine? Think there's a catch? Well, you would have to have the "write stuff" as well.

Come on down for the great home-giveaway essay contest sweeping an America that has become frustrated with the prolonged property slump. For an average entry charge of \$100 you can have the chance to try your creative skills and, if you win, make a dream come true.

Using essay contests to shift property stuck in the slump has been touted as the "new way in creative real estate marketing". It is sweeping across America. Opportunities abound: New England country inns, a nightclub in Oakland, a motel and trailer park in little old Oak Creek, Colorado. For a \$250 entry fee you could enter the contest organised by the owners of a five-bedroom house in Phil-

adelphia; in Colorado a \$100 fee could have you scribbling away for a chain of three Mexican restaurants; a 75-word essay could win you a bed-and-breakfast in Minneapolis.

Oddly, this latest craze did not begin in California. The trend began to take off after an essay contest saw the Center Lovell Inn, a rambling 15-room antebellum house in Lovell, Maine, change hands. Bill and Susie Mosca, who organised the competition for their inn after they found it impossible to sell, popularised the writing contest idea through their appearances on popular chat shows like "Donahue".

They advertised the contest and got 7,000 entries. They only needed to get 5,000 to reach the \$500,000 that was considered a fair price for the property. "For the price of taking the wife out to dinner, or a few lottery tickets, an essay contest gives someone a chance to get something they might never have had, a chance to change their life, to

make the American dream come true," says Bill Mosca, who has now set up in business to advise others on how to off-load their hard-to-sell properties using the same method.

Estate agents, known as realtors in America, are not impressed. "Every time there is a slow-down in the real estate market, sellers start to become innovative," said Kenneth Kerin, the vice-president of the National Realtors Association. "Essay contests are a combination of innovation and desperation."

But try telling that to Rick and Janice Cox, who won the competition for the Center Lovell Inn. Until their victory they were working as chef and manager in a Maryland restaurant. "There's no way we ever could have hoped to own, free and clear, a place like this," said Janice. "I wanted a bed-and-breakfast and my husband wanted a restaurant. We got both." The Coxes have had to repair and rebuild parts

of the building and the whole inn needs to be re-painted. Even so, they are delighted that for \$100 they got the freehold of a major property.

Advocates of the essay contests argue that it is a game with no losers. There are, of course, losers — the people who part with their cash, write their articles on a theme chosen by the owners and fail to win. But most who fail remain uncynical about the competitions and quickly enter others.

The idea is not problem-free. There is a danger of confidence tricksters, or not getting your money back if a competition is cancelled. There may be income tax claims and in some states the contests may be illegal.

None of this deterred Darrell and Melanie Gregory, who are holding a writing competition for their three-bedroom, custom-built house alongside the San Bernardino forest.

"Life's a chance," said Mrs Gregory. "I met my husband through an ad in *Easy Rider*

magazine, when he advertised that he wanted to meet an Amazon woman. If that's not a gamble, what is?"

In 1985, the couple moved into the property when it was just a cabin. Both are over 6ft tall and found the cabin too small. As children arrived they added to it, extending it to 2,750 square feet. The ceilings in all the rooms are high: 12ft in the bedrooms, 18ft in the dining room and a magnificent 24ft in the sitting room. The house is surrounded by five acres and 60 apple, pear and cherry trees, and is valued at \$419,000. It has been on the market for two years.

The competition entry fee is \$50. The prize will go to the best essay, not more than 300 words, which begins: "I would like to live in a house in Summit Valley because..." The couple are hoping for 8,500 entries.

Mrs Gregory, an unemployed medical assistant, says she will not read the entries, which will be judged by a group of local teachers. Bad grammar or spelling will not be taken into account ("if we did, that would eliminate half of California", she jokes). More than a thousands entries have been received already.



Janice and Rick Cox, proud owners of the Center Lovell Inn, won with a \$100 essay

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Better Space for Living



Severe sanctions for solicitors in breach Creditor not obliged to take security offer

**Bolton v The Law Society**  
Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Rose and Lord Justice Waite  
[Judgment December 6]

A solicitor who lapsed from the standard of integrity, probity and complete trustworthiness required by his membership of the profession had to expect that severe sanctions would be imposed on him by the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal.

The fundamental purpose in making disciplinary orders was not primarily punitive or deterrent but to maintain a well-founded confidence among members of the public that any solicitor whom they might instruct would be of unquestionable integrity and trustworthiness.

The Court of Appeal, although considering that the Divisional Court had erred in principle, declined to allow the appeal and reinstate the suspension since the matters complained of had occurred over two years ago.

Mr Bolton had acted in a transaction for the sale of a flat by his wife to her brother, and had received moneys from mortgages to build until the property was conveyed to the purchaser and security documents had been executed in favour of the mortgages. Almost immediately he had disbursed the whole sum, the sale was never completed, and the security documents never executed. When the matter came to light Mr Bolton made good the sum.

Mr Charles Flint for the Law Society, Mr Malcolm Knott for Mr Bolton.

**THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS** referred to the three salient points in the tribunal's decision: that (i) Mr Bolton was dishonest, (ii) his conduct was unacceptable, and (iii) he was not a fit person to be a member of the profession. The tribunal had found that Mr Bolton was dishonest, but it was not necessary to find that he was dishonest. The tribunal had also found that his conduct was unacceptable, but it was not necessary to find that his conduct was unacceptable. The tribunal had also found that he was not a fit person to be a member of the profession, but it was not necessary to find that he was not a fit person to be a member of the profession.

**In re a Debtor (No 415-SD-1993)**  
Before Mr Justice Jacob  
[Judgment November 16]

A debtor's offer to give security over shares held by him but not presently realisable, did not constitute "other grounds" within the meaning of rule 6.5(4)(d) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925) thus precluding the court from granting his application to set aside a statutory demand made to the petitioner pursuant to section 268 of the Insolvency Act 1986.

The "other grounds" of the rule related only to enquiries by the court, at the statutory demand stage, as to whether or not it had been shown that the debtor was, under section 268(1), "unable to pay a debt", or, under section 268(2), "unable to pay a debt as it falls due".

In the case of an unsecured debt the creditor was not obliged to take the security offered by the debtor. However, good it might be, it was not a security which could be relied upon to satisfy the debt. The creditor was not obliged to take the security offered by the debtor. However, good it might be, it was not a security which could be relied upon to satisfy the debt.

The point was argued as one of principle. Could a debtor faced with a statutory demand apply to have it set aside on the ground that he had made an offer of security which the creditor might reasonably be expected to accept? His Lordship had not been asked to consider whether the offer was reasonable.

The relevant provisions so far as material were sections 267(1); 267(2)(c); 268(1) and (2); 271(1), (2) and (3). That was the relevant primary legislation.

It set up a two-stage process for a bankruptcy petition. There was the statutory demand or failure of execution of a judgment debt either of which established an inability to pay. The next question followed after the petition: should a bankruptcy order in fact be made (section 271)?

The secondary legislation was in the relevant provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986. Rule 6.1 set out some formal requirements of the statutory demand. Form 6.1 was prescribed by rule 12.7.

There were detailed requirements as to what should be in the statutory demand. It was not a general procedure concerned with setting aside a statutory demand. It was the scope of that procedure which was in issue.

Under rule 6.4(1) there was an 18-day period in which the application should be made. The application had to be supported by affidavit and there was a prescribed form for that called form 6.5.

The procedure prescribed was intended to be brief. It aimed at establishing an inability to pay and not more. It was not a general course where the court considered generally whether the petition would succeed or fail.

The key rule was rule 6.5. Rule 6.5(4)(d) stated: "The court may grant the application if - (d) the court is satisfied that the demand ought to be set aside."

What other grounds could the court take into account at that stage of the procedure? The question had important practical consequences.

A creditor entitled to immediate payment of a sum of money would be required to consider the security offered. He would very likely have to get involved in his own valuation. There could be a conflict of values.

The whole procedure of whether

the statutory demand should be set aside or not would turn into an elaborate affair and the presentation of the petition might be considerably delayed.

His Lordship dealt with the debtor's first point based on form 6.1, the form of the statutory demand itself. He said that the argument was that the form contemplated that the debtor might not "quickly receive a satisfactory written reply" and that meant a reply satisfactory to the debtor. So, if the debtor had made an offer to compound, for instance, by giving security, he could then apply to have the security set aside.

His Lordship did not read the document in that way. The primary requirement was either "pay or settle". The suggestion in the form was no more than that the debtor could apply, indeed had to apply within 18 days of the date of the demand, to have the demand set aside. There was no right vested in the debtor to obtain "a satisfactory written reply".

The second argument was founded on the "other grounds" of rule 6.5(4)(d) in which it was said that those words conferred upon the court a general discretion to consider what might happen if the petition were presented. Putting the point another way, the court should ask the general question: is it just to allow the creditor to present the petition?

Reference was made to what was said by Lord Justice Nicholls in *In re a Debtor (No 1 of 1987)* (1989) 1 WLR 271, 276. In his first paragraph Lord Justice Nicholls had referred to the consequence that the debtor was required to satisfy the creditor that he was unable to pay the debt in question and then said that that consequence founded the ability of the creditor to present a bankruptcy petition.

In his second paragraph he referred to "other grounds" and "circumstances" which would make it unjust for the statutory demand to give rise to the consequences in a particular case.

The creditor argued that by the use of the words "those circumstances" the court was intended to be able to take into account a general power of the court to intervene to prevent any injustice.

His Lordship did not consider that Lord Justice Nicholls was "considering anything like the question" before him. He was not indicating in his use of the

Provisions for transfer of adoption proceedings

**Practice Direction (Inter-country adoptions: Transfer of proceedings)**  
The following Practice Direction was issued on November 23 by Senior District Judge Gerald Angell, with the approval of Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, and the concurrence of the Lord Chancellor.

In proceedings in a county court under the Adoption Act 1976 concerning a child whose place of origin was outside the United Kingdom, the question of transfer of the case to the High Court might arise.

In deciding whether, under the Children (Allocation of Proceedings) Order (SI 1991 No 1677), such proceedings were appropriate for determination in the High Court, guidance might continue to be derived from the decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re N and L (Minors)* (Adoption Proceedings) (1991) 1 WLR 829, that transfer should be limited to those cases giving rise to issues of complexity, difficulty or gravity.

Orders for transfer should not be made of the court's own motion without the parties and the guardian *ad litem*, if appointed, having the opportunity of making representations on the question of transfer.

It would usually be possible for the necessary enquiries to be made by letter and the matter to be determined without a hearing.

In those cases where there was an issue as to transfer, a hearing for determination of the issue should be fixed, with notice of the date, time and place of hearing given to the parties and the guardian *ad litem*.

It would usually be impracticable to obtain views of the natural parents or for them to be given notice of any hearing.

New procedure for production of time estimates in cases concerning children

**Practice Direction (Children cases: Time estimates)**  
Procedures for the provision of time estimates in children cases were announced in a Practice Direction issued on November 22 by Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, with the concurrence of Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Chancellor.

**THE PRESIDENT** said: As from the date of the direction, parties to proceedings under the Children Act 1989 or under the inherent jurisdiction of the High Court relating to children, which were pending in the High Court in London and in other centres and which were to be heard by a judge, would be required to provide an estimate of length of the hearing (a time estimate) in accordance with the procedure set out in the following paragraphs. This procedure was intended to enable the court and the parties to be kept fully informed of any changes in time estimates so as to facilitate the listing and disposal of cases in the most effective manner.

2. When any hearing which was expected to last one day or more was fixed, whether upon application or at a directions hearing or on any other occasion, the party applying for the hearing, the applicant, and such other parties as might then be before the court, should give a time estimate.

Unless otherwise directed, that should be in writing and should be signed by the solicitor and by counsel, if instructed. A suitable notice of the hearing should be available from the court.

3. If any party to the proceedings was not before the court when the hearing was fixed, the applicant should serve that party forthwith with a copy of the time estimate.

4. Any party served with a time estimate should acknowledge receipt and inform the applicant and the court forthwith whether they agreed or disagreed with the estimate and in the latter case, should also give their own time estimate.

5. If at any time after a time estimate had been given, any party considered that the time estimate should be revised, that party should forthwith provide the court with a further time estimate and should serve a copy on the other parties. It was the duty of solicitors to keep copies of the time estimates given in the case, and it was the duty of both solicitors and counsel to keep the length of the hearing under review and to inform the court promptly of any change in the time estimate.

Deportation of linked parties

**Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Yassin (Mohamed)**  
Before Mr Justice Popplewell  
[Judgment November 23]

Where hearings to consider the deportation of parties whose situations were closely related took place separately and by different tribunals then the outcome in the case of one party was a relevant consideration to be taken into account by the tribunal dealing with the other party.

Mr Justice Popplewell said in the Queen's Bench Division when granting an application by Mohamed Yassin for *certiorari* to quash the rejection by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal of his appeal against the decision of December 22, 1990 of the Secretary of State for the Home Department to deport him.

Mr Ian MacDonald, QC, for the applicant; Miss Clare Montgomery for the tribunal.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that in 1985 the applicant, who held Pakistani citizenship but had become settled in the United Kingdom within the meaning of the Immigration Act 1971, had been convicted of supplying heroin and had been sentenced to four years imprisonment.

His brother, who had been the ringleader, was sentenced to five years and they were both served with a notice of the intention to deport. Their appeals to the Immigration Appeal Tribunal were due to be heard on June 12, 1990 but for reasons which were unclear the applicant's hearing was adjourned.

His brother's appeal was allowed on the ground that while it was in the public interest that he should be deported, compassionate grounds, a pregnant girlfriend who would be unable to

Concealment suspends limitation time

**Sheldon and Others v R. H. M. Outwaite (Underwriting Agencies) Ltd**  
Before Mr Justice Saville  
[Judgment October 20]

A deliberate concealment could have the effect of preventing the limitation period from running, provided under section 32 of the Limitation Act 1980, even when it occurred after the plaintiff's cause of action arose.

Mr Justice Saville held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment in open court after a hearing in chambers whereby, on an application by the defendants, R. H. M. Outwaite (Underwriting Agencies) Ltd and various members' agents, he refused to strike out a point of reply based on section 32 raised by the plaintiffs, John Brooke Sheldon and other underwriting members of Lloyd's syndicates 317 and 661, in the defendants' plea of limitation.

Section 32 of the 1980 Act provided: "(1) ... where in the case of any action for which a period of limitation is prescribed by this Act - (a) any fact relevant to the plaintiff's right of action has been deliberately concealed from him by the defendant; ... the period of limitation shall not begin to run until the plaintiff has discovered the concealment ... or could with reasonable diligence have discovered it."

It was clear that the Court of Appeal had proceeded at least upon the assumption that unconcealment conduct after the wrongdoing giving rise to the action could fall within the "concealed by fraud" provisions of the 1939 Act.

Furthermore, it seemed that *Knox v R.F.A. Association* (1993) 1 WLR 563 was an example of a case where subsequent concealment was actually held to preclude

**LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES**

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**INSOLVENCY RULES 1986**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Insolvency Rules 1986 (SI 1986 No 1925) shall apply to all proceedings under the Insolvency Act 1986 (No 45 of 1986) in the High Court and in the County Courts in England and Wales from the 1st day of January 1987.

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**ROCK page 34**  
Wet Wet Wet want to be treated as adults — but they don't know how to behave like them

# ARTS

**THEATRE page 35**  
Ellie Haddington wins acclaim in the title role of Brecht's *Mother* Courage at the National



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LANDMARKS	PROPOSALS
1 VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM	A RAILINGS FRONT OF V&A - FARRELL
2 SOUTH KENSINGTON	B ACCESS TO - ROGERS
3 NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM	C GLASS GALLERIA - ROGERS
4 SCIENCE MUSEUM	D WIDEN PAVEMENTS - ROGERS
5 IMPERIAL COLLEGE TOWER	E GRAND AXIS - ROGERS
6 IMPERIAL COLLEGE	F CRYSTAL PALACE - FARRELL
7 ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC	G MUSEUM IN MAGAZINE - FARRELL
8 ROYAL COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS	H UNDERGROUND CONCOURSE - FOSTER
9 ROYAL ALBERT HALL	P PEDESTRIANISATION - ROGERS
10 ALBERT MEMORIAL	T TRAM STOPS - FARRELL

## Three visions of Albertopolis

Sir Norman Foster, Sir Richard Rogers and Terry Farrell — the three big personalities of British architecture — recently competed for one of London's prize commissions. This was the opportunity to lead a £100 million bid to the Millennium Fund aimed at bringing the whole South Kensington museum area — from the Victoria & Albert to the Albert Hall — dramatically to life.

Foster won. But at the first glimpse of his plans, the two councils, Westminster and Kensington, went ballistic. Westminster's hastily issued new planning brief says: "The architect's draft proposals to divert traffic, close roads, reorganise parking, are matters of great concern... proposals which significantly worsen traffic movement or residential amenity will not be supported."

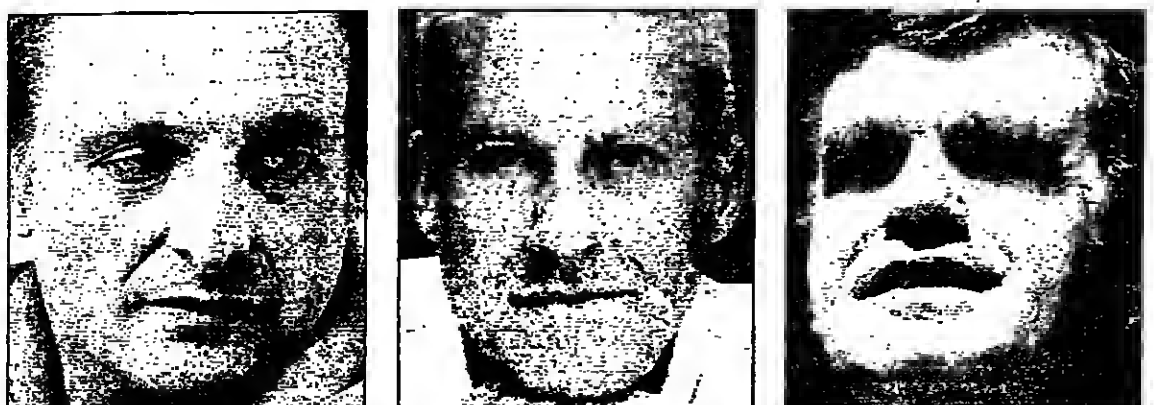
But what Farrell, Foster and Rogers have done is to float a whole range of provocative ideas aimed at reversing the steady erosion of Prince Albert's grand vision for the site. They deserve serious debate.

Albertopolis is so named because the whole site was bought out of the profits of Prince Albert's brainchild, the 1851 Exhibition which, thanks to Joseph Paxton's Crystal Palace, was a national sensation. Albert's grand mix of institutions — the museums, the colleges and the Albert Hall — has thrived. But his vision of a great open garden in the centre of the site, linking Cromwell Road and Kensington Gardens, has been lost as the institutions have seized every scrap of space for huts, extensions and staff car parking.

Now Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum, has brought all the institutions together into a consortium to bid for Millennium funds, against the Royal Opera House, the South Bank and the Tate Gallery's proposed museum of modern art.

"Between now and 2000," Cossons says, "the members of the consortium will spend £100 million on their buildings, but none of us has any responsibility for the spaces in between." With the promise in the

The museum area of South Kensington could one day mirror the Prince Consort's plans, filtered through the imaginations of present-day Britain's finest architects. Marcus Binney reports



The plans of (from left) Richard Rogers, Norman Foster and Terry Farrell could produce a new London

Budget of £11 million for the restoration of the Albert Memorial, Albertopolis is off to a flying start.

Rogers, inevitably, produced the most dramatic schemes. A vast piazza several times the length of St Mark's Square in Venice would run from the Natural History Museum to the Albert Hall, knocking down the Royal College of Music and most of Imperial College in the process. "This great axis," he now acknowledges ruefully, "is an utterly lost cause."

Instead, he has come up with revolutionary ideas for other spaces. His starting-point is the creation of a large pedestrian square linking the Albert Hall and the Albert Memorial, with the park railings pushed back behind the memorial.

His next grand gesture would be to close Exhibition Road to traffic. "It has to be done," he says. Traffic would be diverted up Queen's Gate. Rogers's sweetener to potentially outraged residents would be to put all car parking in Queen's Gate under the street ("they do it every day in Paris").

Rogers would also close Prince Consort Road, which runs across the site below Albert Hall. Philip Gumuchdjian, his project architect, says: "It's an absurdly wide, little-used expanse of tarmac, tempting people to drive at 50 mph." Gumuchdjian would pave it and plant it with trees, providing Imperial College with a much-needed campus, and concert-goers with a promenade garden. "The Royal College of Music could at last open its windows, and music would fill the street," Gumuchdjian says.

But Rogers's nearest idea is to build, in stages, a great Milan-style gallery behind the Natural History Museum. It would link Exhibition Road and Queen's Gate, and provide Kensington residents with a new "front door" into the whole museum complex. Here would be a huge space for giant exhibits, as well as shops and cafés. At present, the only sign of free enterprise in the whole area is a lone ice cream van.

Farrell takes an opposite approach. "There's no need for gimmicks, fantasy or over-the-top gestures," he says. "I'm for investing in our existing grand projects, albeit Victorian ones, rather than a series of French-style extravaganzas that nobody can afford to look after."

Like Rogers, Farrell sees the key as Exhibition Road. Instead of closing it, he would narrow it from seven to two lanes, with occasional drop-off points. This would provide broad Champs-Élysées pavements where Farrell would set kiosks and pavilions housing cafés and bringing light into what Cossons calls "the dreadful lavatorial pedestrian tunnel from the Tube".

Farrell would also open up a public walk through the gardens in the Natural History Museum and erect railings on the wide pavement in front of the V&A. "Not to keep pedestrians out," he explains, "but to shelter them from the traffic pounding into Knightsbridge."

Farrell has been closely involved in the Royal Parks review, and one of

his best ideas is to run a regular mini-train or tram from the museums across the Serpentine to Paddington station. On the way, the handsome Regency powder magazine in Hyde Park, scandalously padlocked for decades, would open as a new gallery. "Another idea," he says, "is to recreate the outline of the Crystal Palace in a new garden layout, with glasshouses at either end."

Foster's trump card proved to be the fact that he is already preparing a masterplan for Imperial College. His scheme, still in embryonic form, is to create a new level of lawns and gardens above the depressing sea of parked cars. This will provide attractive protected spaces for students, with the possibility that the car parking could be used for Albert Hall concert-goers in the evenings and museum visitors at weekends.

After the initial salvo from Westminster, it is unlikely that Foster will pursue the complete closure of Exhibition Road. What is likely is a spacious concourse beneath the road, linking the museums on either side. He is also pursuing the possibility of dropping the traffic along Kensington Gore beneath a new piazza in front of the Albert Hall. "Foster has shown that the road doesn't need to rise to the west, as there is a gentle drop towards Kensington," Cossons says. Spencer de Grey, Foster's partner, explains: "Underpasses no longer have to be bare concrete walls. By sloping the sides, and introducing ledges to catch water, you can entirely cover them with grass."

The strength of Foster's plan is likely to be the way it throws all the major historic buildings into sharper focus, by cleaning, floodlighting and generous paving. De Grey also places welcome emphasis on keeping the grand entrances of the V&A and the Natural History Museum as the main approaches.

"At present, people walk up the carriage ramps to the Natural History Museum," he says. "Why not open up the main gates, clear away the staff cars and let them walk up the main steps?"

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# Small stage where the giants play

Benedict Nightingale hails the work of an Islington theatre whose remarkable success record belies its slim resources

Which subsidised theatre has transferred most productions to the West End this year? No, not the RSC, not the National. Sorry, not the Royal Court or Hampstead Theatre. Here is a clue. The theatre is situated in a tacky part of Islington, has 300 seats only, and has been run for the past four years by two actors with no previous experience of artistic direction. All right, here's another. Tonight, one of these performers opens a production of Molière's *School for Wives* in which the other plays the lead.

The answer is Jonathan Kent and Ian McDiarmid's Almeida. Its transfers of Pinter's *No Man's Land* and Rattigan's *Deep Blue Sea* may have run their courses; but David Leveaux's production of Pinter's *Moonlight* is still at the Comedy and Kent's revival of *Medea* still at Wyndhams. Indeed, Euripides' tragedy, with Diana Rigg radiating grim-faced charisma, has proved the autumn's most unexpected hit.

Kent and McDiarmid insist that they have never picked a play with a view to shifting it westwards and add that, since the Almeida has no production company, the profits from even a long run are tiny. Still, four transfers is a remarkable total, given their theatre's slim resources and the West End public's resistance to serious drama. When the two long-time friends jointly applied for the Almeida's top job in 1989 ("we'd talked and dreamt of having our own place, as actors do") they never expected to land it, let alone be receiving an Olivier Award for excellence just three years later.

What is the secret of the Almeida's rapid success? Well, it got off on the right foot in 1990. It opened with Howard Barker's scabrous *Scenes from an Execution* was risky in itself, especially as there was money only for that and half another production; but with Glenda Jackson in the lead, it was always going to attract attention. Since then major actors have proved willing to come to the Almeida for its basic wage of £185 a week: Paul Eddington in *No Man's Land*, Alan Bates in *Bernhardt's Showman*, Janet Suzman in *Hippolytus*, and Diana Rigg, first in *Dryden's All for Love*, then in *Medea*.

"We just ring up and ask," explains Kent. The attraction is partly the Almeida itself. The stage is large, larger even than one or two West End theatres, yet no spectator is more than a few yards from it.

McDiarmid: "It's not a studio. People aren't looking up your nostrils

and you needn't give a scaled-down performance. Yet if you want to give one, you can." Kent: "You can do big plays like *All for Love* and intimate ones too. Our cliché is that it's an epic space in miniature."

But the finest theatre will not attract top talent without the right people and approach behind it. Kent and McDiarmid may not be everyday names on the Clapham omnibus, but each has spent 20 years building a reputation for enterprising performances. And when men of their calibre talk of the "primacy of acting and of language", meaning that a playwright's words must never be swamped by visual ado, it is not surprising their fellow professionals listen.

They have avoided formulating a more precise policy than this, feeling that it can only categorise, trap and limit them. In practice, they follow their own very similar and pretty catholic tastes, trying to ensure a balance between new plays and revivals. That has brought Islington dramatists as various as Wedekind and Anouilh, the young Asian-American Han Ong and, of course, our own Harold Pinter.

He was impressed enough by the theatre's production of his *Betrayal* to offer it both his short *Pure Time* and his first full-length play in years, *Moonlight*. Moreover, he himself appeared in its revival of *No Man's Land*, consolidating what already seems one of the more important creative relationships of our era. But then a playhouse which can persuade Brian Friel to remodel Turgenev's *Month in the Country* and David Hare to adapt Brecht's *Galileo* — both promised for 1994 — can anyway rely on a place in the theatre historians.

Interviewing Kent and McDiarmid is like talking to a man with two heads. Ideas and opinions flow seamlessly, with changes of speaker sometimes occurring in mid-sentence. Clearly, their easy-going rapport is another reason for the Almeida's success. They share all management duties and, they say, seldom if ever disagree about essentials. The main difference is that, while one is still primarily an actor, the other has found unexpected fulfilment in direction. Kent's revival of *School for Wives*, with McDiarmid as the jealous Arnolphe, is his seventh production at the Almeida.

"I sometimes fear I've lost my nerve about acting," says Kent. "During performances I think, how did I ever get onstage? How did I learn the lines? Nor can I just sit



Ian McDiarmid and Jonathan Kent: "we'd talked and dreamt of having our own place, as actors do"

down and watch something I've directed. I get this feeling that if I do so, the play will stop. I stand at the back, and if something goes wrong, I go into a sort of jack-knife position and fall to the floor. I find direction terrifying — and fascinating."

There are of course less exhilarating anxieties in the Almeida air, mostly financial ones. The crisis that struck in 1991, when the London Borough Grants Committee threatened to withdraw £55,000, may have passed; but the theatre must still take an annual £400,000 at the box-office, which means selling 80 per cent of its seats. Since they mount just six productions a year, McDiarmid and Kent know that one flop could destroy them.

But that fear has yet to influence their programming. Many choices, such as Griboyedov's *Chatsky* and

Oog's *L.A. Plays*, have been highly risky. A new play by the little-known Phyllis Nagy is scheduled for 1994, as is a revival of Jarry's *Ubu Roi* by Jonathan Miller, with a cast of teenagers. "We would never do a play we thought was not good so as to afford one that we fail," says McDiarmid. "If we fail, we fail."

Well, their Almeida has had its critics, including some of Islington Council, which gives it a derisory £2,500 a year. The word is that it is too mandarin or, as the LBGC said in 1991, has not targeted "the physically or economically disabled" or "promoted cultural identities". "The implication is that excellence equals elitism," says Kent. "I find it depressing that it's not enough to offer great performances in great plays."

But that is what the theatre has offered and, it seems, will continue to

offer. Plans are afoot for the Swedish actor Peter Stormare to appear in something by Strindberg, and for Ralph Fiennes to play Hamlet. Moreover, Kent and McDiarmid hope to start a touring arm, which would bring work to London, though not necessarily to the Almeida, as part of a European runaround.

McDiarmid: "I've seen organisations that have found a pattern for success go on repeating it *ad nauseam*. You can't let yourself be categorised. You've got to keep moving." Kent: "Also, the secret of running anything is creative energy. If ours falters, it will be time to go." Late in 1993, that particular danger looks far away.

Jonathan Kent's production of *The School for Wives* opens tonight at the Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, Islington, London N1 (071-359 4404)

## LONDON CONCERTS

### Ideal setting for songs of sorrow

BBC SO/Lazarev Festival Hall

FOR some Górecki's "Symphony of Sorrowful Songs" is a poignant lament that strikes profound chords in the contemporary psyche; for others it is a monotonous exercise in mind-numbing Minimalism.

While confessing my own position to be closer to the latter, I did find this performance, by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Lazarev, more engaging than usual. Perhaps the experience of hearing it live for the first time had something to do with it: one cannot but be impressed by the rapid attentiveness of a sympathetic audience that allows a full 15 seconds to elapse between the last notes and the first applause.

But more than that, I think it had to do with the context of the BBC's Polish season, which has deepened one's understanding of the background to Górecki's Third. A broadcast of his First Symphony, dating from 1959, the previous evening, demonstrated the fragmented, frenetic style of his earlier years. His subsequent turn towards the simplicity of chant and ritual in the Sixties and Seventies was against the grain of the times.

Hearing music that is the

antithesis of the brash, go-getting spirit of our age, I wish I could respond more positively. Yet it is always the moments of change, the pivotal points in the structure, that arrest me — the first appearance of the soprano soloist (here the excellent Lorna Anderson), the entry of the rich, velvety-toned brass — rather than the repetitions.

Fully accepting that this is missing the point of the piece, I admired Lazarev's handling of its massive arches, and admired even more the vibrancy of the drama he extracted from Szymanowski's Symphony No 4 ("Symphonie Concertante"). This compatriot composer's folk-derived melodies provided more valuable context, even if the dynamism, the scintillating orchestration and the virtuoso piano part (played with glittering panache by Janina Fialkowska) are all worlds away from the penitential austerity of the "Symphony of Sorrowful Songs".

BARRY MILLINGTON

### Unsound fury

Bell/Isserlis/Mustonen Wigmore Hall

EXTREME playing produces extreme reactions: eavesdropping in the interval of Fridays' Wigmore Hall recital by Joshua Bell, Steven Isserlis and Olli Mustonen yielded a rich and varied harvest. Those familiar with the piano playing of young Mustonen will know that this is where the business starts and ends. Staccato stings like a whiplash, grace notes sigh almost to expiry, chords are hit as if an entire drum kit were in action. He is intuitively musical, and his responses are genuinely passionately felt. His thrashing about should not be mistaken for display or affectation; but it is fast approaching the point where physical indisziplin is actually undercutting interpretation and technique itself.

What is more, the violent mid-phrase eddies, the percussive shock tactics and the perversely exaggerated phrasing which badly distorted the Schumann Trio in G minor (Op 110) inevitably rubs off on his fellow players. Bell and Isserlis are either forced to respond in kind, as they did in the variations of the Beethoven B flat major Trio (Op 11), or are dogged into the merely mauling, as in the finale of the Schumann.

It is unpleasant to have to say this of musicians of such individual imagination and enterprise. Their joint chamber music making, borne out of festivals, has not yet learnt how to modify and pace the properly excited and excitable playing of such seasonal encounters into a partnership for all seasons. I suspect, too, that the frenetic hyperactivity of Friday's concert was also a form of overdrive brought on by the nervous and physical exhaustion which a European tour of daily gigs inevitably brings.

Shostakovich alone remained relatively unscathed: this E minor Trio contains music of extremes whose central dance of death can take a fair amount of saving and thumping. But Bell, Isserlis, Mustonen and their several agents should take a long, hard look at what is going on here. A videotape of a post-mortem might offer a salutary experience for all concerned.

HILARY FINCH

## Master with a degree in melody

Clive Davis talks to a young saxophonist hailed as the most exciting new voice in jazz since Wynton Marsalis

Joshua Redman's story is the stuff that publicists dream of. Here he is, a handsome, articulate young man from a poor background who graduates *summa cum laude* at Harvard, lands a place at Yale Law School, and then turns his back on it all, virtually on the spur of the moment, to devote himself to the saxophone — and to play it

so well that within months he is hailed by many as the most exciting jazz musician to hit New York since Wynton Marsalis.

And he is only 24. At this point even Frank Capra might have suggested that the story-line was a touch too sunny. Redman himself gives a half-suppressed groan when he is asked, for the umpteenth time,

to describe the route from the Ivy League to the Village Vanguard.

The fact that he is the son of Dewey Redman, a brilliant but undervalued tenor player who has worked with Ornette Coleman and Keith Jarrett, adds an extra twist. Yet Redman's performance on his new album, *Wish* (Warners 9362-453652) — where he found himself in the imposing company of Pat Metheny, Charlie Haden and Billy Higgins — goes some way to justifying the hype.

The two points that strike new listeners are his full, seasoned tone and his unabashed love of melody. Those are attributes that have not been in fashion over the past quarter century. There are plenty of conservatory-trained virtuosos, to be sure, but very few who give the saxophone the warmth and resonance of the human voice.

He names Sonny Rollins as a prime influence, but he has a passion, too, for unfashionable, raw-toned tenor men such as Stanley Turrentine. He also has a refreshingly unconventional taste in material: Stevie Wonder's "Make Sure You're Sure" and Eric Clapton's "Tears in Heaven" sit comfortably alongside Charlie Parker's "Moose the Mooche". "I don't feel the need to uphold some standard of purity," he explains. "Jazz musicians have always drawn from disparate sources."

Born in the year of Woodstock in the radical haven of



Joshua Redman: playing with warmth and resonance

Berkeley, California, he was raised by his mother, seldom seeing his father except during Redman Senior's occasional musical sorties to the West Coast. Joshua, who had no formal musical tuition, played in bands at high school and university, but music always took second place to his academic studies.

It was in 1991, when he took a year off in New York prior to entering Yale Law School, that he began to give the saxophone his full attention. While sharing a house with musicians he started playing on the club circuit, and soon afterwards took first place in the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition. It was not long before he was getting phone calls from Elvin Jones, Jack DeJohnette and other veteran bandleaders.

As a self-taught player, Redman confesses to gaps in his knowledge of music

theory. Yet he clearly knew enough to gain the imprimatur of Pat Metheny who, whatever the merits of his soft-focus fusion albums, is a renowned master of harmony. Missing out on music school has not, Redman thinks, proved too much of a disadvantage. "I know a lot of great, soulful musicians who've come out of music college, but there are things that you cannot teach about music, and one of those is creativity."

"People come out with tremendous technique and tremendous knowledge of theory, but they don't have any sense of themselves as musicians and they don't have any emotional involvement with the music — which in the end is the only thing that really matters. The technique and the theory are all means to the end. The intellect is just a resource through which you express what your soul has to say."

## THEATRE: Triumph for an unfamiliar name at the National

### On the road to victory

Mother Courage Cottlesloe

she is streetwise but, so to speak, road-foolish. She cannot see far enough beyond her raw, bony nose to twig that her successes imperil those for whom she wishes to succeed. But for this point to carry weight we must believe that, rough and unsentimental as she is, she genuinely cares for her children. For Haddington, that's no problem. She is excellent throughout the famous sequence in which she loses a son to the firing squad by haggling over a bribe.

especially at a climax which leaves her rocking with throaty grief, then stumbling off with a half-nonchalant, half-broken shrug. The bent, exhausted figure she cuts after her daughter's murder is almost more eloquent.

Not everything in the performance — a self-mocking girl-ishness, for instance — quite succeeds. Nor does everything in the production. Its blend of periods — a parody Cavalier here, a plummy BBC voice delivering stage directions from a creaky radio over there — seems over-emphatic. But Haddington is a real find, and Clark's revival kept me, no great Brechtian, engrossed throughout. It has clarity, pace and a supporting cast consistently strong enough to make me feel a bit guilty for picking out Michelle Joseph, emotionally most articulate as Courage's speechless daughter, Katrin.

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Ellie Haddington and Jeremy Swift in *Mother Courage*

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# Warne puts dispirited New Zealand to flight

FROM PETER ROEBUCK IN BRISBANE

NEITHER sultry skies nor a defiant, if adventurous, innings from Ken Rutherford could deny Australia victory by an innings and 96 runs in the third Test match and a 2-0 triumph in a series that fizzed at first and then fell flat.

New Zealand were overwhelmed. Rain delayed proceedings for 55 minutes, returned within an hour of the last wicket falling and might have saved a more resolute side. Alas, New Zealand could not summon the spirit of Kline and Mackay or Bailey and Watson long ago, and their resistance lacked conviction. Once Tony Blair had missed a straight one down a lively spell from McGrath the end was not far away, though the pitch was still arid perfection itself.

As usual, the New Zealanders were all at sea against Warne. Blair and Patel were reduced to a series of kicks and lunges, a tactic that did not impress Warne, who behaves like an enraged goose every time an appeal is rejected.

Happily Patel received his comeuppance when he shouldered arms and was bowled between his legs by Warne, operating from round the wicket. South Africa beware.

Craig Howard, younger than Warne and not much inferior, has just bowled Victoria to an easy victory over them. South Africa's display in a six-wicket defeat prompted Dean Jones, the Victoria captain, to warn they would be "destroyed" by Warne in the Test series if they do not improve their technique against spin.

Danny Morrison's appearance at the crease provoked much interest, for he had not troubled the scorers on four previous visits. Overnight he had vowed not to bother taking a bat out with him, and team-mates had nicknamed him Audi (four circles) and were eager to name him Olympic (five).

After a somewhat hazardous period, during which the bat was put to little use, Morrison finally drove a single off McGrath and July shook hands with opponents and waved to a crowd of 679. A total of 20,934 watched the match. Morrison promptly danced out to drive Warne to long-on, and what is more, carried his bat.

Rutherford, meanwhile, had been driving, and pulling fluently, and playing Warne with "soft" hands, a rare sight.

He had asked his team to fight and plainly knew he had to lead the way. For 201 minutes he held firm and it took the second new ball to undo him, his steeper bounce causing a hook to be lifted to backward square leg. Rutherford's game innings had been to no avail.

McGrath bowled a 13-over spell, broken by lunch, and in it he found pace and movement, late and mostly into the bat. For the first time, he looked every inch a Test-match bowler.

Defeat for New Zealand was not far away. Doull hit cleanly, passed 500 runs in his first-class career, and then

## SCOREBOARD

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 233 (A H Jones 56; C J McDermott 4-38; S K Warne 4-68)

Second Innings

B A Pocock c Healy b McDermott 11

A H Jones c Border b Warne 53

K R Rutherford c Warne b McGrath 86

M J Gressbach b Warne 18

C L Cairns c Healy b McGrath 16

D N Patel b Warne 16

O K Morrison not out 24

S J Doull c Taylor b Warne 24

R P De Groot b May 6

Extras (7 b, 12 nb) 24

Total 244

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36 (28.3), 2-81 (44.4), 3-136 (61.7), 4-229 (82.9), 5-285 (101.1), 6-341 (114.1), 7-341 (114.1), 8-341 (114.1), 9-341 (114.1), 10-341 (114.1), 11-341 (114.1), 12-341 (114.1), 13-341 (114.1), 14-341 (114.1), 15-341 (114.1), 16-341 (114.1), 17-341 (114.1), 18-341 (114.1), 19-341 (114.1), 20-341 (114.1)

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 607 (S K Warne 147 not out; A R Border 105)

Man of the match: S K Warne

Man of the series: S K Warne

was caught it at slip as a leg break turned across him, giving Warne his eighteenth wicket of the series, the most by an Australian against New Zealand.

Warne was later named man of the match and series, and rightly so, for he was superb, as were the Waughes and, here, McDermott. Eleven minutes later De Groot edged a cut onto his stumps and it was over.

Australia will be hard to beat when England play their next winter because their team is powerful and their reserves impressive. And England, pitifully, are still complaining about damaged balls, still tolerating university cricket and other softnesses, still following false trails, still treating as heroes those men of the Eighties that brought them down, still allowing old minds to rule the roost.

England must go in pursuit of competitiveness and excellence or else they will be swamped in Australia. A winter spent watching local club and youth cricket would benefit many officials. Australia can be beaten. They are not above cockiness of the sort that can bring a team to its knees. They have named a squad for the World Series Cup, the triangular one-day tournament which also involves South Africa, that includes five opening batsmen; it is an insular party that hints at a strain of arrogance and complacency, characteristics that denied Australia victory in their World Cup campaign.

## FINAL TEST MATCH AVERAGES

Australia batting and fielding									
	M	INO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50s	Wkts	BB
S P Waugh	3	2	216	147	72.0	1	1	1	1/1
M A Taylor	3	4	285	142	71.25	1	5	5	1/1
O C Booc	3	4	282	106	70.5	1	3	3	1/1
S K Warne	3	2	85	74	42.5	0	4	4	1/1
M J Slater	3	4	395	168	76.25	1	3	3	1/1
R P Relf	3	3	74	74	24.66	0	0	0	0/0
M E Waugh	3	3	215	111	71.66	1	3	3	1/1
I A Healy	3	3	129	113	43.0	1	13	13	1/1
A R Border	3	3	181	105	60.33	1	3	3	1/1
ALSO PLAYED: C J McDermott 2 matches, S J Doull 2 matches, B A Pocock 2 matches, D N Patel 2 matches, O K Morrison 2 matches, S P Waugh 2 matches, M A Taylor 2 matches, O C Booc 2 matches, M J Slater 2 matches, R P Relf 2 matches, M E Waugh 2 matches, I A Healy 2 matches, A R Border 2 matches									
New Zealand batting and fielding									
	M	INO	Runs	HS	Avg	100	50s	Wkts	BB
A H Jones	3	6	324	143	54.00	1	3	3	1/1
K R Rutherford	3	6	290	86	48.33	1	4	4	1/1
C L Cairns	3	6	165	42	27.5	0	4	4	1/1
B A Pocock	3	6	97	34	16.11	0	1	1	1/1
D N Patel	3	6	78	20	13.0	0	1	1	1/1
M J Gressbach	3	6	25	14	4.16	0	1	1	1/1
S J Doull	3	6	67	35	11.17	0	1	1	1/1
R P De Groot	3	6	35	24	5.83	0	1	1	1/1
O K Morrison	3	6	20	20	3.33	0	1	1	1/1
ALSO PLAYED IN ONE MATCH: M O Crowe 42, 311; B A Young 53, 62; C Z Harris 4, G W Watsson 0									
Bowling									
	O	M	R	W	Avg	BB			
S K Warne	151	3	49	305	16.16	6-31			
I A Healy	53	17	84	5	16.80	1-7			
B A Pocock	133	3	340	12	28.33	4-39			
S P Waugh	18	29	31	1	41.00	1-10			
G D McGrath	6	42	17	3	5.66	2-76			
P R Relf	48	6	141	2	70.50	2-75			
ALSO BOWLED: A R Border 2-0-0, S J Doull 2-0-0, R P De Groot 2-0-0, B A Pocock 2-0-0, D N Patel 2-0-0, O K Morrison 2-0-0, S P Waugh 2-0-0, M A Taylor 2-0-0, O C Booc 2-0-0, M J Slater 2-0-0, R P Relf 2-0-0, M E Waugh 2-0-0, I A Healy 2-0-0, A R Border 2-0-0									



Warne, the Australian leg spinner who took 18 wickets in the series, bowls to Rutherford yesterday

## Sri Lanka Test may be delayed by rain

THE start of the inaugural Test match between Sri Lanka and West Indies in Moratuwa today may be delayed because the ground is saturated following torrential rain.

"It looks very, very wet and I can't see us starting on time," Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, said. He is also concerned about the condition of the pitch. "I am not an expert, but it doesn't look like a wicket I would like to see for a Test match," he said.

Dulip Samarasekera, the new captain, will open the Sri Lankan batting while West Indies may decide whether to play a second spinner in Roger Harper.

SRI LANKA (front): A Ranasinghe (captain), R S Mahanama, O Samarawickrama, H P Theerasinghe, P A de Silva, S T Jayasinghe, R S Kalpage, P Dissanayake, G P Wickramaratne, M Muralitharan, S O Anura Kumara, O Jayasinghe, A H Wickramaratne, C Vaze.

WEST INDIES (front): R B Richardson (captain), O L Haynes, P V Simmons, B C Lara, K L T Anthonio, C L Hooper, J R Murray, C E L Anderson, W K M Benjamin, R A Napier, A C Cummins.

## Crawley's presence marks him out

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

JOHN Crawley is the sort of young man upon whom expectation sits lightly. Yesterday, Crawley was showing off his skills on the golf course at Sun City, enjoying a rest day after the 22-year-old had scored 88 in his first representative innings to steer England A to victory in their opening tour match against Western Transvaal.

Crawley, level-headed and mature, was quick to stress before the warm-up one-day game against Eastern Transvaal, at Springs, near Johannesburg, today, that his performance on Monday had come off a relatively weak attack. He omitted to mention that Western Transvaal did include Tony Gray, the former Surrey and West Indies pacesetter. It was Crawley's commanding presence at the wicket that most caught the eye, hitting his first ball as an England batsman through extra cover for four.

Here, without doubt, is a

## SPORT IN BRIEF

### Guildford threaten television black-out

GUILDFORD Kings are threatening to pull the plug on a Spanish television crew preparing to televise the European basketball championship tie against Barcelona in the Spectrum Arena tonight (Nicholas Harting writes). The ultimatum to Dorna, a marketing company that holds the television rights to games in the competition's later stages, has come from Barry Dow, Guildford's joint owner. With his club still owed \$50,000 (about £33,500) of Dorna's first instalment of \$150,000, Dow has told the Barcelona-based company that he wants some indication when the balance will be paid.

"The money hasn't been forthcoming in spite of the tremendous amount of communication with them," he said yesterday. Should Dow be forced to carry out his threat, Sky Television's live coverage of the game, beginning at 8pm, would be affected. Alton Byrd, the Guildford player, hopes to have recovered fully from a swollen knee.

### Chen ranks with best

TABLE TENNIS: Chen Xinhua, the England No 1, rose one place to thirteenth in the world rankings released yesterday, following his victory over Jean-Philippe Gatien, the world champion, in the Swedish Open last month. Chen might have risen higher still had he captured the Swedish title after a thrilling final against Andrzej Grubba, the former World Cup winner from Poland, who snatched victory over the Yorkshire-based player with a 21-18 win in the final game. Although Chen's defensive style causes difficulty for Gatien's fast, left-handed attacking, and therefore not too much should be read into this one result, the former Chinese international's overall performances nevertheless suggest that at the age of 33, he is playing his best since helping his native country to win the world team title in 1987. This augurs well for England's European League semi-final first leg match against Belgium next week.

### Promise pays dividends

SNOOKER: Outstanding early-season performances from two of the game's most promising talents were rewarded yesterday when Ronnie O'Sullivan, the winner of the United Kingdom championship ten days ago, and Peter Ebdon received wild card invitations to compete in the £415,000 Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley from February 6 to 13. O'Sullivan, 18, ensured that he will be the youngest participant in the 18-year history of the tournament by winning last month's Benson and Hedges championship in Edinburgh; Ebdon, 21, won the Skoda grand prix title.

### Doubles success

REAL TENNIS: Bill Huxley and Charles Wade won the prestigious Camkin Trophy doubles championship after an impressive victory over Julian Snow and Paul Muddiman, the top-ranking Britons, in the semi-final. Wade played a canny floor-game while Huxley vollied and forced effectively, picking off the pallant Muddiman as he staunchly defended the galleries. In the final, Wade and Huxley proved much too experienced for the promising partnership of Nick Jury and Nick Terry, winning 6-2 in spectacular style.

### Wasim returns

CRICKET: Zimbabwe, destroyed by Waqar Younis in their first Test match against Pakistan, will also have Wasim Akram, his new-ball partner, to contend with in the second Test in Rawalpindi tomorrow. The Pakistani captain missed the opening match of the three-Test series after fracturing his wrist in Sharjah last month, but he was barely missed as Waqar claimed match figures of 13 for 135. Andy Flower, the Zimbabwe captain, admitted his side faced a "daunting task" trying to hold off the two pace bowlers, but his side is likely to be unchanged from the first Test.

### Award for Langer

GOLF: Bernhard Langer, the US Masters champion this year, was yesterday named as the winner of the Association of Golf Writers' Trophy for 1993, the second time that the German, 36, has taken the award given to the player or players judged to have done the most for European golf during the season. He previously won it in 1981, when he topped the European money list. "I am very excited and very happy about winning this prestigious award again," Langer said. "It's a real honour to gain the votes of some of the most knowledgeable people in golf."

### Tour's double money

GOLF: The Women Professional Golfers' European Tour is to double its prize money for 1994, offering £2million at its 17 tournaments. The main events will be the £335,000 Wecabix British Open at Woburn in August and Europe's defence of the Solheim Cup in October.

1994 PRIZES: April 21-24, European money list, Italy, 28-May 1, Ford Classic, Woburn; May 18-20, Costa Azul Classic, Lisbon; June 9-12, Belfry Masters, Royal Club Belfry, France; 16-19, Orie Open, Austria; 22-25, BMW European Masters, Bielefeld, Germany; 30-Jul 3, Humber Open, Chelmsford; 7-10, European Classic, Germany; 28-31, Ford Irish Open, August 22, Scottish Open, Glenrothes; 11-14, Wembley Open, Wembley; 18-21, Top of the Lake Open, Harrogate; 22-25, BMW Italian Open, Livorno; 29-31, La Manga Club Spanish Open, October 13-16, Val d'Arenas Open, France; 21-23, Solheim Cup, The Greenbrier, USA.

### Schumacher signs

MOTOR SPORT: Michael Schumacher, the German Formula One driver, yesterday signed a new three-year contract with the Benetton team, Flavio Briatore, the team's managing director, confirmed. "Although Michael had a contract until 1995, we are extremely pleased that we have now secured his talents for at least a year beyond that. We consider Schumacher to be a great asset and a firm guarantee of continuing success. Schumacher, who finished fourth in the world drivers' championship standings last season, said: "There is a fantastic atmosphere at the team."

## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

### CONTRACTATION

(b) Handling, touching, fingering, caressing furtively or against someone's will, hence in Roman law, contraction was theft from another man's property without his consent was theft from the Latin *con-tractio* - *tractare* to touch: "A possessed woman, in whose body they can canvas a devil by contraction, and certain ennobling nips, making him ferret up and down."

(a) One who is skilled in the science or practice of exchanges, one who deals in bills of exchange, from the French *ambulant*, Latin *ambulum*, Italian *ambulo* exchange: "These speculators in exchange, or cambists, as they are technically called."

(c) Pertaining to salvation, theological jargon, from the Greek *salvatio*, H. Crosby Christian Preacher, 1879: "The soterial path of SPIGURNEL."

(b) The sealer of the king's writs, from the Anglo-Latin *spigurnellus*, of obscure origin. Godfrey Spigurnell was in the service of King John in 1207, and the office of *spigurnellus* is mentioned in a document, dated 1299, cited by Kenneth Holland, *Camden's Britannia*: "These Bobins (to note so much by the way for the antiquity of a word now grown out of use) were by inheritance for a good while the Kings Spigurnells, that is the sealers of his writs."

### SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Nf6+ and if 1... g6x2 Qh8 mate. If 1... Kf8, Black loses his queen (2 Nxd7+) but the most accurate reply is actually 2 Bg5, which forces mate in a further two moves.

## Anglers angry over licence fee increases

The revised rod licence structure announced by the National Rivers Authority (NRA) last month was the latest of several attempts by the NRA to rationalise the system and to generate more money for its fisheries work.

Each attempt has brought the NRA into sometimes heated debate with representatives of the angling community and in some circles, notably among fishery owners and salmon and sea trout anglers - there has been a dilution of the goodwill with which the NRA was universally greeted at its launch in 1989.

It would be a great pity if these early encounters caused attitudes in either camp to harden. While the NRA has unquestionably made mistakes, anglers as a whole are an infuriating bunch. At the same time, the creation of the NRA is the most important development for fisheries in the lifetime of living fishermen. For the first time they have a national body charged with and, I believe, genuinely dedicated to the maintenance and improvement of the waters on which all angling depends. For this reason alone, the NRA deserves all the support that anglers and



### Brian Clarke finds the angling community in muddy waters as NRA seeks to raise more money

fishery owners can reasonably give it.

In many ways, the NRA's fisheries function is a victim of circumstances and its own zeal. It inherited a shambles from the regional water authorities. These authorities, and their predecessors, for a century, had not only failed to maintain and improve fisheries, but had presided over, and contributed to, a catastrophic decline in them.

In seeking to address the problems, the NRA has inevitably deflected attention from its less glamorous but vital work on the ground - not least the research and data-gathering that frustrates most fishermen but that will lead to better fisheries management. The NRA is singularly unblissed in its customers. In most of the specialist media that should be making anglers aware of events, space devoted to a balanced analysis of issues is as rare as a rise of eels.

The other side of the coin is

that the NRA has shown it can be ham-fisted and bureaucratic and, for all its clear commitment to consultation, to be desperately poor at communication. A year after it had introduced a single licence enabling anyone to fish for all species for £13.25 a year, the NRA said it wanted to move to a licence based on fish classes. Coarse fishermen would have to pay £15, trout fishermen £22.50 and salmon and sea trout fishermen, £75. The scale and split of the proposed increases took everyone by surprise.

During the debate, the NRA left anglers with a feeling that the figures had been structured simply to take account of bureaucratic need and that the trout and salmon figures especially had been plucked from the air.

The fact that the authority has been able to settle for £15 from trout fishermen, has

done nothing to dispel this view. The fact that the NRA has said it will make up much of the shortfall by improved enforcement likewise has won it little ground. Before the review, the NRA stubbornly refused to accept the overwhelming view of the people on the bankside that licence avoidance is rife and that improved enforcement could bring in much of the extra money needed.

The pitching of the salmon and sea trout licence at £75 was particularly puzzling. No satisfactory reason for choosing this huge figure was ever given. It was simply stated that the NRA spends much more on salmon and sea trout fisheries than on other fisheries and so game-fishermen should expect to pay more than others. But exactly how much more and on what basis? And given the rationale, how could salmon anglers who nationally averaged less than one fish a year in 1992 possibly accept a five-fold hike, when commercial nets paying a fraction of the overall duty, took an average of 40 fish each in the same year?

A wise man would suggest that when planning future negotiations on funding with

the angling community, and when deciding what arguments they need to prepare, the NRA makes four assumptions.

First, that anglers will object to paying for something they have not paid for previously. Second, that they will object to paying for a "benefit" they cannot perceive or quantify. Third, that they will not pay an apparently unreasonable amount for any benefit. Fourth, that they will not pay any amount they cannot afford, no matter how great a benefit.

There is a fifth assumption that the NRA is no doubt making: that in any negotiations, the angling community will be unable to speak with one voice because the institutions which speak for the sport are obsessed with rivalries and the defending of territories.

It has long been so, but it should not be. The bodies representing anglers and owners owe it to the sport as a whole to find a single voice on important matters. If they can do so, they will find themselves better placed to get value from everyone with whom they deal - and that includes the NRA.

## Cowboys recover confidence

DALLAS Cowboys rebounded from consecutive defeats with a 23-17 victory over the Philadelphia Eagles on Monday night to remain one game away from first place in American football's NFC East division. Emmitt Smith rushed for 172 yards, including 57 on a fourth-quarter run that set up the decisive touchdown.

Dallas, the Super Bowl champions, improved their record to eight wins and four defeats, one game behind the New York Giants, who they meet in the final week of the season. Philadelphia, who ended a six-game losing streak last week, have five wins and seven defeats.

The Cowboys scored on their first possession, from Troy Aikman's 11-yard touchdown pass to Michael Irvin, and stretched the lead to 16-0 with three Eddie Murray field goals in the second quarter. Although the Eagles fought back, Dallas effectively settled the outcome by moving 23-10 ahead, with 9min 16sec remaining, through a two-yard touchdown from Daryl Johnson after Smith's surging run.



# Marketing drive targets new blood

By RICHARD EVANS  
RACING CORRESPONDENT

AFTER three painful years putting its house in order, racing faces the fresh challenge of selling itself to the public and attracting new spectators and owners.

The importance of dynamically marketing racing to compete with other leisure activities was the theme of keynote speeches at the annual Glimcrack dinner held at York racecourse last night.

With racing now administered in a more professional manner since the British Horseracing Board (BHB) assumed responsibility for many of the functions carried out by the Jockey Club for two centuries, the need to sell racing to

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Bolin Magdalene (3.20 Haydock)  
Next best: Avro Anson (2.20 Haydock)

a wider audience was underlined by Robert Sangster, the leading British owner who made the Glimcrack speech, and echoed by Charles Wilson, a former editor of *The Times*, and Lord Hartington, senior steward of the Jockey Club and the BHB chairman.

Sangster highlighted how much had changed in racing organisation since he last made the Glimcrack speech in 1986 and he saluted Lord Hartington for his role in the establishment of the BHB.

"But I believe this is only a beginning," he said. "Much needs to be done if racing is to maintain, let alone increase, its share of the leisure market. And here I am struck by how little has changed since I stood here in 1986."

Seven years after suggesting a British Breeders' Cup day, which would attract Cup Final-style attention, and a strengthening of off-course tote pool betting, little had



Turid Island, left, gives Robert Sangster victory in the Glimcrack Stakes at York and the honour of addressing last night's celebratory dinner

been achieved, although the need was more acute, he said.

The only Sunday when racing led the sports pages was after the Grand National. It was essential racing had at least one other Sunday when it led the field, and it could be achieved without great difficulty on the Saturday of the Oaks at Epsom.

"What you have to do is to move the Oaks and the Derby onto the same card,"

Sangster said. "Take the mile and a quarter handicap from Derby day and make it worth £100,000 to the winner, then move the Temple Stakes from Sandown, which will bring in Europe's top sprinters.

"This Saturday will then instantly become the biggest racing day of the year, the most exciting televised racing afternoon of the season, the heaviest gambling number of all, and, in one move, Epsom

is back on top where it belongs. Don't say this can't happen because it can," Sangster said.

Wilson, managing director and editor-in-chief of *The Sporting Life*, said now the BHB was in existence the time was right for racing to market itself with more aggression.

"Newcomers to the sport too often find it a scary encounter. We need to make racing more customer friendly, more owner

friendly, more racegoer friendly."

Expensive bureaucracy facing new racehorse owners had to be tackled and racecourses should welcome partnerships owning horses rather than restricting the number of owners' badges.

"We need to capture the public's imagination. We need to identify the market, the under 30s, the family audience, target them, and sell racing as vigorously as it is

done abroad in America, Australia and Japan."

Lord Hartington highlighted the success of appearance money at Exeter, free food at Cheltenham and free entry at Kelso as "just three examples this year by entrepreneurial managements to increase racing's appeal to customers."

"Attitudes are beginning to change. Competition and professionalism are no longer dirty words."

## Muse given top weight in Ladbroke

By JULIAN MUSCAT

A RECORD British entry of 23 has been received for The Ladbroke, a handicap hurdle at Leopardstown on January 8. The David Elsworth-trained pair, Muse and Oh So Royal, have been allocated 12 stone and 11st 11lb respectively.

In addition to Glendou, the previous winners How's the Boss and The Illiad are among the 61 entries. Others include the Triumph Hurdle winner Shaviva, and the Dermot Weld-trained Aiyah and Fortune And Fame, all quoted at 16-1. The latter has already attracted support for the Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham in March.

The strong entry delighted Ladbrokes representative Mike Dillon, who said yesterday: "The fact that we are going 14-1 the field tells its own story about the competitive nature of the race."

The Ladbroke has been Gaelic Myth's long-term objective for many months. A six-year-old just out of the novice stage, Gaelic Myth failed by only a head to overhaul Lord A Dollar in the Seagram Top Novices' Hurdle at Aintree in April, when Land Alar finished three-quarters of a length away third. Stack is hoping to complete the horse's preparation with an outing in Ireland over the Christmas period.

Kilcash returned to the fray with an encouraging sixth behind Land Alar at Sandown on Saturday, and will renew rivalry with Glendou on identical terms. But the Peter Hedger-trained horse is 7lb better off with Land Alar, a 20-1 chance for The Ladbroke.

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## BIG RACE ENTRIES

THE LADBROKE (Handicap hurdle; 200,000; 2m) (61 entries)	12.40 SHERATON MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-0-0; £2,445; 7f) (8 runners)
Muse 12-0	6000 COLONEL SINGULAR 3-10 (10) 10-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-122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# West Ham reap rewards of transfer dealing

By Keith Pike

WEST Ham United may not be able to match the millions invested by Manchester United or the blank chequebook Kenny Dalglish wielded at Blackburn Rovers, but if there was a prize for the shrewdest piece of football transfer business this season, Billy Bonds would walk away with it.

Bonds knew he was taking a gamble when he sold Julian Dicks to Liverpool for £1.5 million in September. The full back may have had a dreadful disciplinary record, but he remained the supporters' favourite and, with the team struggling on its return to the FA Cup, there was a threat of unrest on the terraces at Upton Park.

Tonight, though, when Leeds Uni-

ted play in east London, they will be taking on a team transformed. Such has been the impact made by David Burrows and Mike Marsh — who left Anfield as makeweights in the deal — and Lee Chapman, who was bought from Portsmouth with the cash left over, that Dicks's departure has almost been forgotten.

"Fortunately, their arrival paid dividends from day one, when we won 2-0 at Blackburn, and it has given the whole club a lift," Bonds said. West Ham have lost only two of their last 12 games, at Anfield and St James' Park, and conceded only six goals in the process to rise to tenth in the Premiership, the club's best placing for seven years.

Burrows has revelled in the opportunity to attack from left back and

Marsh, who missed the victories at Southampton and Wimbledon last week because of a family bereavement, has been a key figure in midfield as West Ham have added a touch of steel to their more traditional attributes of accurate passing and attractive approach play.

Chapman, too, has made an impact with his eighth English club. He has taken a lot of weight of Trevor Morley's shoulders. Bonds said. Morley had not scored in seven games before Chapman's arrival but has managed seven goals since, while Chapman, who was 34 on Sunday, has also scored seven, including three in the last two matches. Leeds, one of Chapman's former clubs, will be hoping that Pemberton and Wetherall, their

central defenders, pass late fitness tests.

Tonight's match will be the sternest test yet of West Ham's revival. Leeds's form — eight wins and five draws in 13 matches — is bettered only by Manchester United and, much as Howard Wilkinson's decision to pay Sheffield United £2.7 million for Brian Deane was derided at the time, the investment is beginning to pay off. Deane has scored four goals in Leeds' last five games and his strike partner, Rod Wallace, six in six.

Sheffield Wednesday, who have been following West Ham's climb up the table, will also be defending a long unbeaten run tonight. Wednesday, who travel to Aston Villa, have not lost in 12 league and cup games.

Chelsea, one goal in the last 12 hours and having taken one point from 27, may be without Dennis Wise, their captain, for the visit of injury-hit Wimbledon.

Galatasaray, the Turkish champions who knocked Manchester United out of the European Cup, will have to overcome unfamiliar conditions as well as Spartak Moscow if they are to progress in the Champions' League. Their flight from Istanbul was delayed for three hours because of heavy snow in Moscow. The other matches in group A sees Barcelona, the favourites, at home to AS Monaco. In group B, Werder Bremen play Anderlecht, while Milan prepare to play São Paulo in the Inter-continental cup in Tokyo on Sunday.

## Rees gets kick out of his part in second famous victory



JOHN HOPKINS

At the University match

A GAME fit to set before a king? No. There had been one of those ten days earlier, when England vanquished the All Blacks.

Was it, then, a match to send the 66,000, a record attendance for the fixture, into choruses of "Swing Low Sweet Chariot"? Not really. In time, the 112th University match may come to be seen as a watershed. If truth be told, though, it was the occasion that was on display more than the game. In time, the attendance for this match will settle down to its own level.

Peering down on the pitch from 75ft up in the smart new East stand, one could sense the ferocity of what was happening before us. You could still hear them calling one to another and watch the play unfolding. There was a distinct nip in the air, too. Goodness knows how cold it was in the highest seats, 105ft above ground level and perhaps 300ft from the touch-line.

From time to time there intruded into one's mind ghostly echoes of England's victory over New Zealand. Not that that worried Gareth Rees, Oxford's Canadian stand-off with the Welsh antecedents. For Rees, who had kicked his country to victory over Wales with a conversion in injury time in Cardiff last month was now the mastermind and deadly boot that took Oxford to victory over Cambridge.

Rees knew Twickenham from old. He knew the way the wind blows, that the flags can be limp on one side of the pitch and standing out stiffer than a newly starched shirt on the other. It swirls and eddies, here one minute, gone the next. He had first played at Twickenham as a teenager, in 1966. Now, on this crisp, clear afternoon, when shafts of sunlight stole across Cambridge's 22 just before the start, he showed all the experience he has acquired in 23 appearances for Canada.

Rees is six-foot tall with more than a hint of a spreading stomach. There is no need to hint at it actually, because the programme notes said it all: "... he is probably the first Oxford No 10 ever to take the field in size 38 shorts. Has a taste for Big Macs and was fined heavily on tour for wanting to play prop".

Though Rees's first penal-

ty went over in the 16th minute, it wasn't his first kick. He had attempted one from well inside his own half minutes earlier. A bit ambitious, one thought as he indicated his intentions, but Rees is nothing if not confident.

"How would I describe him?" Chad Lion-Cachet, Oxford's captain, mused later, a smile playing around his mouth at the thought of his teammate. "Effervescent, vivacious, a team man through and through. Some international mix in, some don't. Gareth definitely mixes in. He told the lads before the match that this was just like an international for him."

Rees's first kick was head height, wobbling and dropping fast and more than a few light blue supporters laughed at it. No matter. His kicking against Major Stanley's XV at Ilfeld Road had been shaky at the start, too, four in the first half going wide. Then he got the measure of it and so, up to a point, did he yesterday.

Just before half-time, he dropped a goal from 40 yards, the ball barely rising higher than the crossbar at any time during its passage. Then he kicked a penalty soon after half-time, taking Oxford to 12-3, and a third penalty midway through the second half.

Rees will remember his first University match for these successful kicks. He may want to forget his last attempt. It was from directly in front of the posts, no more than 15 yards out. He missed it, the ball smacking into the junction of the crossbar and the left upright. It didn't matter because Oxford had won by then.

There are six Welshmen involved with rugby at Oxford and when Rees returned there after the game against Wales it could have been a bit tense. "He was persona non grata for a while after that performance. But he has a lovely sense of humour. He gave us all a kick," Lynn Evans, the director of rugby at Oxford, said.

"Anyone's got to be happy with a win at Arms Park followed by such a victory as this," Rees said, grinning, and off he went to buy his father a drink. Father had watched son at Cardiff and watched him again at Twickenham. They had something to celebrate. They both deserved a drink.

Walker accentuates the positive before meeting Internazionale in Milan

## Norwich plan to defy Uefa Cup odds



Enjoying a taste of things to come, Gunn, the Norwich goalkeeper, practises in the San Siro yesterday before the Uefa Cup meeting with Internazionale

AS THE Norwich City players stepped out onto the San Siro turf in desultory weather last night, some of them looked up into the steep bank of some of the most expensive seating in the world. It will cost spectators around £75 to watch Norwich's attempt to become the first English club to beat an Italian side in European competition in Italy for more than a decade. Beyond that, since they are already a goal down after the game at Carrow Road two weeks ago, it requires an enormous leap of faith for Norwich even to contemplate victory by two goals.

Yet they do. Mike Walker, their defiant manager, will tell them in the dressing room before their Uefa Cup third-round, second-leg tie to respect Internazionale, but not go out in awe of them. He will suggest that if they play the

game properly, they can — and will — win 2-0.

As the players performed their workout in the stadium yesterday, the sheer enthusiasm of Jeremy Goss took the eye. Now 28, born in Cyprus and a Wales international, his personal transformation over ten years at Norwich is surely a message that anything can happen if a player has both the desire and the opportunity. In the season and a half since Walker became manager, Goss has blossomed from a makeweight in the team pool into a midfield player who can come from the deep positions and score magnificent volleyed goals against any opposition on any stage. He has already done it against Bayern in Munich and has scored three times in five Uefa Cup games so far.

Yet all is far from hope and faith and charity with Nor-



Rob Hughes looks at the task facing the English underdogs in the San Siro stadium

wich. Robert Chase, their chairman, confirmed yesterday that at least one of his players, Darren Eadie, the young winger, is paid precisely £150 a week, and stands to win more than his annual salary in one night should he participate, even as a substitute, as he did in Norwich's uplifting exhibition of skills and willpower at Old Trafford last Saturday. That performance, in which the ground control of the Norwich passing was at least equal to much of Inter's work this season, fuels the insistence by Walker that the away form of Norwich means this tie is far from over. Their task, however, is complicated by the loss through suspension of three key performers — the playmaker, Ian Crook, the captain, fan Butterworth, and most crucial of all, the sweeper, Ian Culverhouse. Walker would not confirm yesterday that he even intends to play with a sweeper in Milan, but, by musing that the extra man at the back has been an integral part of Norwich's success and that it buys time and space to allow Norwich to play, the hint was broad enough. The players expect David Bowen, 29, the stylish Welsh full back, to step into the breach and start a match as sweeper for the first time in his long

career. Given the unruffled calm of his game against Manchester United and the readiness with which he switched roles at the manager's behest when Butterworth was injured on Saturday, the players can place their trust in him.

To underestimate Internazionale would be folly. Their team has players, including Dennis Bergkamp and Ruben Sosa, who can destroy any defensive garrison. They should have proved it at Carrow Road, where Bergkamp admits he was strangely profligate, and they did give a demonstration of emphatic power in their away game at Lecce in the league last Sunday.

There, Bergkamp did score, but his Dutch partner, Wim Jonk, was absent through injury, an absence that merely allowed the Russian, Igor

Shalimov, to step back into the team and to score twice. Shalimov is some substitute. His first touch with his left foot is almost magnetic, yet he can bend the ball 30 yards through the air to strike at goal from virtually any angle.

Goss's career should, nevertheless, offer hope for the English club. It was said for him many years ago by Laurence Sterne, who almost anticipated the quality as "Perseverance in a good cause, obstinacy in a bad one". The cause, for the good of English football, is certainly a worthy one, and until the final whistle in Milan this afternoon, a hopeful one.

INTERNATIONALE (probable): 3-5-2. W Zenga — G. Bergomi, S. Bazzani, M. Paganini — A. Paganini, F. Dall'Ara, I. Shalimov, O. Fortolan, A. Orlando — O. Bergkamp, R. Sosa.

NORWICH CITY (probable): 1-3-4-2-1. B. Gunn — D. Bowen, J. Pott, R. Newman, C. Woodhouse — D. Sutch, J. Goss, G. Morgan, R. For — L. Power, O. E. Ekeke, C. Sulton

## Roker pantomime brings few laughs

Louise Taylor reports on the problems facing Sunderland Football Club as it struggles to restore its reputation

AS the Christmas pantomime season gets into full swing, few productions can rival the comedy of errors being staged at Roker Park.

Gleefully renamed "Blunderland" by Newcastle supporters, Sunderland Football Club is in turmoil. The team is near the bottom of the first division. This season it has seven successive matches, its worst sequence for 17 years.

Sunderland dismissed Terry Butcher, who boasted the poorest managerial record in their 114-year history, 12 days ago, two hours before the chairman, Bob Murray, resigned.

The club hopes to relocate in a new £70 million stadium and leisure complex at nearby Washington. Unfortunately, the proposed site adjoins land owned by the Japanese car manufacturers and leading local employer, Nissan. It objects, arguing that the proposed development would interfere with motor delivery deadlines.

The consensus is that the scheme will become the subject of a 12 to 18 month public enquiry in January, when the proposals are scheduled to be put forward for planning permission. It seems bizarre that Sunderland spent more than a year acquiring funding for the project before discover-

ing that Nissan would dig its heels in so deep.

The club insists there are no suitable alternative sites, which could leave Sunderland stuck with Roker Park. Only essential repairs have been undertaken at the 100-year-old stadium in recent seasons and it is showing its age.

Anticipating moving grounds in 1995, the club received special dispensation from the Football Licensing Authority, freeing it from the requirement to make Roker Park an all-seater stadium by 1994. With relocation now in doubt, such dispensation could be withdrawn.

If so, Roker Park might have a capacity of only 8,000, all seated, next season. Even with a struggling side, Sunderland regularly attract around 17,000 and the board may have little choice but to cut its losses and invest upwards of £20 million on revamping the ground.

Most supporters are more worried about the team, but if the new ground falls through money is unlikely to be available for players. Butcher

spent £2.8 million on five newcomers last summer but his failure to motivate the likes of Phil Gray and Derek Ferguson almost certainly cost him a career in football management.

Mick Buxton, his successor, has been told that difficulties with the new stadium dictate that he must sell before buying. Hardly a household name, Buxton, 50, seemed baffled by his elevation. His curriculum vitae includes spells in charge at Huddersfield and Scunthorpe but Buxton said he had "settled for walking the dog and being with the wife", before accepting the job. "I thought my managing days were over but I couldn't say no," he added.

Steve Coppell and Dave Bassett said no when sounded out about succeeding Malcolm Crosby before Butcher's appointment last February. Like Buxton, Coppell and Bassett are advocates of the long-ball game. But most Sunderland followers yearn to see a passing game, in the mould of Kevin Keegan's side at Newcastle.

Some at the club saw the landing of Butcher, a former England captain, as a similar publicity coup to Newcastle's capture of Keegan. It did not work out like that. The appointment of Buxton until the end of the season goes to the other extreme. Murray said there was a "lack of managerial talent around" at the moment. The outgoing chairman overlooked creditable candidates like Brian Little, of Leicester, and the Bolton Wanderers management team of Bruce Rioch and Colin Todd last season.

Little and Rioch have performed praiseworthy jobs at their present clubs. Increasingly the mood among Sunderland followers is that Rioch, a believer in quality passing and firm discipline, is the man to sort things out at Roker. Maybe if Murray had appointed the right man in preference to Butcher, he would still be chairman of a successful club.

While Newcastle supporters marvel at the brave new world inspired by Keegan and Sir John Hall, things seem even more shambolic at Sunderland. A pantomime has been staged at Roker Park but it cannot hold a candle to the real thing. No wonder the place is rapidly becoming known as Joker Park.

## Fry ready to talk to Birmingham

By Peter Ball and Keith Pike

THE odds on Barry Fry succeeding Terry Cooper as manager of Birmingham City shortened considerably yesterday when he was given permission to speak to the first division football club.

Birmingham's approach for Fry had initially been turned down by Vic Jobson, the Southern United chairman, but yesterday Jobson relented: "I thought long and hard and in the end felt it was only right to let Barry hear what Birmingham had to say."

Jobson said: "We could have insisted that he stuck by his contract, but maybe it's best to let him see what is on offer."

Fry was due to begin negotiations with David Sullivan, the Birmingham owner, last night. "The potential at St Andrews is enormous," Fry said, "but whether I go there is another matter."



John Maddock, the Manchester City general manager, has followed his former chairman's example. Less than a week after Peter Swales resigned, Maddock yesterday did likewise after just over three months in the job.

"I'm going to ease the way for the new chairman," Maddock said. "He doesn't want public enemy No 2 around and I'm also going for the sake of the team. If I'm still around, the supporters will continue to attack me."

Maddock had been criticised by supporters for recommending the dismissal of Peter Reid as manager three weeks into the season and the appointment of Brian Horton as Reid's successor.

A consortium headed by John Mitchell, the former Fulham striker, which is hoping to buy David Kohler's majority shareholding in Luton Town, has been given until next Tuesday to complete the transaction.

### MATCH FACTS

	
<b>OXFORD UNIVERSITY</b> 20	<b>CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY</b> 3
Attendance: 66,000	

SCRUMS		Award		Won		Ag hd		Void	
Oxford		12		12		1		0	
Cambridge		8		7		0		1	
LINEOUTS		Award		Won		Void			
Oxford		20		18		1			
Cambridge		29		30		0			
PENALTIES		Award		Twp		Goal		Miss	
Oxford		8		0		3		3	
Cambridge		12		3		0			
HALF BACKS		Received		Run		Kick		Pass	
Du Toit		61		4		3		49	
Tynan		50		6		4		40	
Rees		38		4		14		19	
Kennedy		34		1		20		12	

KICKS AT GOAL		Total		Con		Miss	
Rees		4		3		1	
Tynan		4		0		4	

Boyle succeeded with one drop goal attempt and Rees succeeded with two of four for Oxford. Kennedy was successful with one of two drop goal attempts for Cambridge.

Statistics compiled by Unisys

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## BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast** (82717)  
7.00 **Breakfast News** with Nicholas Wintell and Tanya Sillam (9232593)  
9.05 **Kilroy**. The former MP chairs a topical studio discussion (s) (4757662)  
9.45 **Newsround**. Current affairs quiz hosted by Ross King (s) (4315798)  
10.00 **News** (Ceelax), regional news and weather (1401330) 10.05 **Playdays** (s) (3080175)  
10.30 **Good Morning**. With Anne and Nick. Weekly magazine programme presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (15212175)  
12.15 **Pebbles**. With guest singer-songwriter Gerard Kenney and lyricist Tim Rice (s) (8510011) 12.55 **Regional News** and weather (15743048)  
1.00 **One O'Clock News** (Ceelax) and weather (57798)  
1.30 **Neighbours**. Michael's plans for Julie are alarmingly successful while Rick and Debbie receive distressing news. (Ceelax) (s) (7006107)  
1.50 **Sportspoint**. Live coverage of the UEFA Cup match between Inter Milan and Norwich City (57414021)  
3.58 **Hansom Scram**. Picture book stories told by Sandi Toksvold (9245473) 4.05 **Wallis and Jonathan Cohen** (s) (1371021) 4.05 **Dog and the Dweebies** (s) (4613866) 4.20 **Mortimer**. Arabel. Puppet comedy drama (s) (4634334) 4.35 **Arabel**. Puppet appreciation, including a history of the teddy bear (s) (8584682)  
5.00 **Newsround** (5298040) 5.05 **Grange Hill**. Children's secondary school drama serial (s) (Ceelax) (s) (2534568)  
5.35 **Neighbours** (s) (Ceelax) (s) (376885) **Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster** (s) (376885) **Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster** (s) (376885)  
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceelax) (Ceelax) (427)  
6.30 **Regional News Magazine** (779) **Northern Ireland: Neighbours**

## BBC2

- 6.55 FILM: Strangers** (1935, b/w) starring May Robinson as a mailman trying to keep her unruly family in line. Directed by Charles Victor (8855408)  
8.00 **Breakfast News** (Ceelax) (555563)  
8.15 **Westminster Daily** (933788)  
9.00 **FILM: You'll Find Out** (1940, b/w). Horror spoof starring a trio of classic Hollywood villains, Boris Karloff, Peter Lorre and Bela Lugosi. Directed by David Butler (49663)  
10.30 **FILM: Dance, Girl, Dance** (1940, b/w). Bouncy comedy with Lucille Ball as a burlesque queen. Subtitles. Directed by Dorothy Arzner (85758)  
12.00 **Play: Chess** (s) (3081934) 12.15 **Favourite Things**. Margaret Thatcher talks to Russell Harty (s) (8272514) 12.40 **Dipstick**. Car maintenance (s) (61178514) 12.50 **Animal Passions** (s) (2295205)  
1.20 **Children's BBC: Brum** (s) (3848408) 1.30 **Stoppit and Tidypup** (s) (23798021)  
1.35 **The Story of English Furniture**. William and Mary (s) (20241934)  
2.00 **News** (Ceelax) and weather (88141175) 2.05 **A Telling Dilemma**. A new blood test which screens women for Down's Syndrome. Pregnancies (23870205) 2.35 **Countryfile** (s) (1671427)  
3.00 **News** (Ceelax) and weather (3087866)  
3.05 **Westminster Live** (Ceelax) (4750250) 3.30 **News** (Ceelax), regional news and weather (1370392)  
4.00 **Catchword** (s) (392) 4.30 **A Question of Sport** (s) (Ceelax) (s) (578) 5.00 **Today's Day** (s) (2578)  
5.30 **Food and Drink** (s) (156) 6.00 **Star Trek** (s) (Ceelax) (74872)  
6.50 **Defi It: Rough Guide to the Americas**. A visit to Chile. (Ceelax) (412798)  
7.30 **Open Space: Knuckles of Love and Hate**. A look at tattoos (Ceelax) (205)  
8.00 **Shooting the Writer**. Salman Rushdie introduces a book of assassinated Algerian writer Tahar Djaout. (Ceelax) (853885)

## CHOICE



Ben Elton faces the end of the world (BBC2, 9.25pm)

**Stark**  
BBC2, 9.25pm  
Ben Elton adapts his much-praised eco-satire for the screen and plays his central character, the aspiring pommie writer at large in Australia, as portrayed by Elton. "CD" is a Chaplinesque little man who gets caught up in events beyond his control. As in the Chaplin films the hero acquires a pretty wife (Jacqueline MacKenzie) with whom to share his adventures. The first episode is forced to spend much of its time laying out the complicated plot. Simplified, it involves Elton, the girl, a corrupt business consortium trying to thwart a corrupt business consortium as industrial pollution hastens an ecological Armageddon. At times there is too much story and the baddies tend to be caricatures. Ben Elton's sharp wit and social concern cannot help breaking through.

**Dispatches**  
Channel 4, 9.00pm  
An extended edition of the current affairs series re-examines the Marchioness tragedy and offers a radical challenge to the accepted version of events. The pleasure boat sank after a collision with the Bowbelle, a sand dredger, on the Thames, with the loss of 51 lives. There has never been a public enquiry or a full inquiry. The programme argues that its new evidence, based on internal company documents and fresh eye-witness accounts, makes the case for both sides. The shortcomings in the way the Bowbelle was operated and managed. It also disputes the official account of how and where the collision took place. But South Coast Shipping, the Bowbelle's owners, maintain that nothing would be served by a public enquiry.

**States of Terror**  
BBC1, 9.00pm  
This account of terrorist activity in Lebanon during the 1980s covers similar ground to last night's Channel 4 programme. *From Beirut to Bosnia*. But while the latter gave the viewpoint of the Islamic fundamentalists, Peter Taylor's film looks at American policy. The Americans were hated by the Muslims because of their perceived support for Israel. The most powerful country on earth was humiliated by a small band of fanatics. After 241 marines died in a truck bomb attack, the Reagan administration talked tough and promised no deals with terrorists. Two years later it was trading arms for hostages. George Shultz, then Secretary of State, admits he was appalled. But he tactfully stops short of calling Reagan a liar.

**Celebrity Mantelpiece**  
BBC2, 10.20pm  
Paloma Picasso, daughter of Pablo, proves that the rich and famous are attached to the world's Channel 4. The pleasure boat sank after a collision with the Bowbelle, a sand dredger, on the Thames, with the loss of 51 lives. There has never been a public enquiry or a full inquiry. The programme argues that its new evidence, based on internal company documents and fresh eye-witness accounts, makes the case for both sides. The shortcomings in the way the Bowbelle was operated and managed. It also disputes the official account of how and where the collision took place. But South Coast Shipping, the Bowbelle's owners, maintain that nothing would be served by a public enquiry.

## CHOICE

- 6.00 GMTV** presented by Lorraine Kelly and Eamonn Holmes (415595)  
9.00 **Top of the Morning** with Amanda Redington. Includes a mother and baby feature (9208224)  
9.25 **Supermarket Sweep**. Game show (s) (9201311)  
9.55 **London Today** (3065595)  
10.00 **The Time... The Place...** John Stapleton hosts a topical studio debate (s) (7570514)  
10.35 **This Morning**. Weekly magazine with Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley (15206514) 12.20 **London Today** (3315966)  
12.30 **News** (Teletext) and weather (2208311)  
12.55 **Coronation Street** (s) (Teletext) (241330)  
1.25 **Home and Away**. Bobby tackles Greg over her suspicion that he is having an affair (Teletext) (26740779) 1.55 **A Country Practice**. (74011478)  
2.20 **The Chrystal Rose Show**. Chat show for Londoners (s) (1707286) 2.50 **The Young Doctors** (5070330)  
3.20 **ITN News** headlines (909156) 3.25 **London Today** (Teletext) and weather (909427)  
3.30 **Children's ITV: Alphabet Castle** (s) (7348576)  
3.40 **Wizards** (1378934) 3.50 **Old Bear Stories** (s) (7342392) 4.05 **Avenger Penguins** (7652885)  
4.30 **Cartoon** featuring Twenty Pie (s) (8252005)  
4.40 **Wolf!** A widow who appears in Mr Thomas's shop seems to have designs on him (Teletext) (s) (2665736)  
5.10 **Home and Away** (s) (Teletext) (5689458)  
5.40 **ITN Early Evening News** (Teletext) and weather (983111)  
6.00 **London Tonight** (Teletext) (10866)  
6.10 **Loss a Million**. Game show with Chris Tarrant (s) (9668)  
7.30 **Coronation Street**. Another person is accused of being Denise's caller while Barbara's Christmas party goes with a swing. (Teletext) (s) (30404)  
8.00 **Dee O'Connor Tonight**. The guests include Diana Ross, Ben Elton, Lesley Joseph, Lisa Stansfield and Rowan Atkinson (s) (6243)



Derek Lord as a target of hitmen (9.00pm)

- 9.00 Crime Story**. Dramatised account of how a three-man assassination squad was sent from Yugoslavia in 1988 to kill a Croatian leader, Nikola Stodul (Derek Lord), living in Scotland. Two were stopped at customs, but the third slipped into Britain and began to stalk his victim. (Teletext) (s) (3779)  
10.00 **News at Ten** (Teletext) and weather (56822) 10.30 **London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (578243)  
10.40 **Champions**. League Highlights. Action from tonight's second matches in the Champions League stage of the European Cup (174934)  
11.40 **FILM: Heart of a Champion: The Ray Mancini Story** (1985). Based on the life of boxer Ray "Boom, Boom" Mancini. His father had been a contender for the lightweight title, but he suffered serious injuries in the Second World War. Ray was determined to win the title for his father. Starring Robert Blake. Directed by Richard Michaels (928406)  
1.30 **Hollywood Report** (s) (42354)  
2.00 **The Chrystal Rose Show** (s) (28335)  
2.30 **America's Top Ten** (s) (30170)  
3.00 **Entertainment UK** (76625)  
4.00 **60 Minutes**. American current affairs series (29847)  
5.00 **Riviera**. French drama serial (82996)  
5.30 **ITN Morning News** (87147). Ends at 6.00

## CHANNEL 4

- 9.30 Ulysses 31**. Animation (s) (56785)  
7.00 **The Big Breakfast** (30021)  
9.00 **You Bet Your Life** (s) (89589)  
9.30 **Anne of Green Gables**. The concluding part. Anne has ended her childhood with Gilbert, but a death at Avonlea changes her life (s). (Teletext) (17064933)  
11.20 **Devon Valley Vintage** animation (9038576)  
11.30 **Blood Sweat and Glory**. An exploration of the ethic of sportsmanship with golfers Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, and Welsh rugby hero Barry John (s) (4392)  
12.00 **House to House**. Maya Even presents news and views from Westminster (82598)  
12.30 **Seaside**. (30853) 1.30 **The Magic Roundabout**. (30853) 1.30 **The Changers**. Paddington and Ivor the Engine (32088)  
2.00 **FILM: The Glass Mountain** (1949, b/w) starring Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray. A delight for fans of music and romance. A composer loses interest in his wife as he is inspired to write an opera by the majesty of the Italian Alps. And a beautiful woman. Directed by Henry Cass (520243)  
3.50 **Little Tom Thumbs**. Animation (7842406)  
3.55 **Check Out 93**. Consumer affairs programme (s) (5161069)  
4.30 **Fifteen to One**. (Teletext) (s) (972)  
4.30 **The Oprah Winfrey Show**. Oprah interviews a man who refuses to acknowledge his child, claiming his lover became pregnant on purpose and "stole" his sperm. (Teletext) (s) (1190682) 5.00 **Laurel and Hardy** (94021)  
6.00 **The Crystal Maze**. Richard O'Brien challenges more contestants to overcome obstacles that lead to the prize Crystal Dome (s) (18408)  
7.00 **Channel 4 News** (Teletext) and weather (313088)  
7.50 **Party Political Comment**. A Labour Party politician as an opinion. (Teletext) (33304)  
8.00 **Brookside**. Soap set on Merseyside. Deadlock in the Rogers household while Simbad loses the jacket and shirt off his back. (Teletext) (s) (6156)  
8.30 **Travelog**. The travel show for people travelling on a budget visits Japan where Robert Elms looks at special countryside where tourists can experience rural life and visit Mount Fuji. Robert Elms visits a centre with 120 temples. He also examines how Japanese society has changed as a result of the recession. (Teletext) (s) (5663)  
9.00 **CHOICE**. (s) (1866)  
10.00 **The Golden Girls** (s). (Teletext) (s) (58088)



Troughton, Hughes and Maguire (10.35pm)

- 10.35 Sean's Show**. Comedy with Sean Hughes plus Michael Troughton and Victor Maguire (s) (263555)  
11.05 **Ray Bremner - Who Else?** (s) (134601)  
11.45 **The Almost Complete History of the 20th Century**. A satirical view of history. Tonight, First World War general, Earl Haig, comes in for some over-the-top treatment. (Teletext) (162427)  
12.00 **Moviematch** (s) (6241)  
12.30am-2.00 **Maschinen**. Drama by John Moninger, based on Vladimir Nabokov's novel set in a shabby Berlin boarding house in the 1920s. One of the residents, a young Russian exile, is unexpectedly confronted with his past. Starring Kay Elwes, Inna Brook and Freddie Jones (s) (174710)

Rodney Dangerfield gets educated (7.00pm)

- 7.00 FILM: Back to School** (1986) starring Rodney Dangerfield as an uncouth millionaire who enrolls at his son's university as a freshman. With Keith Sordani and Sally Kellerman. Directed by Alan Metter. (Ceelax) (s) (28156)  
8.30 **Sitting Pretty**. New comedy series starring Diane Bull as a woman determined to overcome adversity (Ceelax) (s) (2853)  
9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** with Maryn Lewis. (Ceelax) (Ceelax) (5507)  
9.30 **CHOICE**. States of Terror. Lebanon. (Ceelax) (s) (12773)  
10.20 **Sportspoint**. Heavyweight champion Horrie Hide meets Jeff Lamper. 10.30 **Crusier**. A cruiserweight champion, for the WBC title in San City, Bophuthatswana. Plus, highlights of Norwich City's UEFA Cup third round match against Inter Milan, who are 1-0 up from the first leg (5648514)  
11.30 **Spender for Hire**. Spender investigates the brutal murder of a pregnant woman and becomes embroiled in racial prejudice, the US Navy and a runaway Polish sailor (s) (128175)  
12.20am **Weather** (924573). Ends at 12.25  
2.15-5.15 **BBC Select: Accountability Television** (303286) 3.15 **Legal Network Television** (55800)  
4.00 **TV Edits - French 2** - TV5 (192644) 4.45 **ATV Promo 3** (37915)

Salman Rushdie on war crimes (8.50pm)

- 8.50 Human Rights, Human Wrongs**. Salman Rushdie on the atrocities committed in Bosnia in the name of "ethnic cleansing". (Ceelax) (s) (138340)  
9.00 **Seinfeld**. American comedy. (Ceelax) (599155)  
9.25 **FILM: Stark** (Ceelax) (s) (635934)  
10.20 **CHOICE**. Celebrity Mantelpiece: Paloma Picasso. (Ceelax) (144175)  
10.30 **Newsnight**. (Ceelax) (793251)  
11.15 **The Late Show**. A look at video art (145717)  
11.55 **Weather** (871768)  
12.00 **Human Rights, Human Wrongs** (s) (873357)  
12.10am **FILM: Tudawali** (1987). Moving account of the life of Aboriginal actor Robert Tudawali whose film success introduced him to the white man's world, something for which he was ill-equipped. Directed by Steve Jodrell (885002). Ends at 1.45

VideoKase and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme are VideoKase numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder to watch a particular programme. VideoKase can be used with most video recorders. For more information, see the Video PlusCodes in the back of this issue. For a full list of VideoKase numbers, see the back of this issue. For a full list of VideoKase numbers, see the back of this issue. For a full list of VideoKase numbers, see the back of this issue.

## RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am** **Good Morning** (FM only) 7.00 **Mani, Good Morning** 9.00 **Simon Mayo** 12.30pm **Newsbeat** 12.45 **John Peel** 1.00pm **Steve Wright** 4.00 **News** 5.30 **John Peel** 6.00 **News** 7.00 **John Peel** 8.00 **News** 9.00 **The Knowledge**. Alan Freeman confronts the music industry (s) 9.30 **Dance Energy** 10.00 **Mani** 10.30 **Dance Energy** 11.00 **Mani** 11.30 **Dance Energy** 12.00 **4.00am** **John Peel** (FM only)

## RADIO 2

- FM Stereo, 5.00** **Sarah Kennedy** 8.15 **Paula Abdul** 9.15 **Paula Abdul** 10.15 **Paula Abdul** 11.15 **Paula Abdul** 12.15 **Paula Abdul** 1.15 **Paula Abdul** 2.15 **Paula Abdul** 3.15 **Paula Abdul** 4.15 **Paula Abdul** 5.15 **Paula Abdul** 6.15 **Paula Abdul** 7.15 **Paula Abdul** 8.15 **Paula Abdul** 9.15 **Paula Abdul** 10.15 **Paula Abdul** 11.15 **Paula Abdul** 12.15 **Paula Abdul** 1.15 **Paula Abdul** 2.15 **Paula Abdul** 3.15 **Paula Abdul** 4.15 **Paula Abdul** 5.15 **Paula Abdul** 6.15 **Paula Abdul** 7.15 **Paula Abdul** 8.15 **Paula Abdul** 9.15 **Paula Abdul** 10.15 **Paula Abdul** 11.15 **Paula Abdul** 12.15 **Paula Abdul** 1.15 **Paula Abdul** 2.15 **Paula Abdul** 3.15 **Paula Abdul** 4.15 **Paula Abdul** 5.15 **Paula Abdul** 6.15 **Paula Abdul** 7.15 **Paula Abdul** 8.15 **Paula Abdul** 9.15 **Paula Abdul** 10.15 **Paula Abdul** 11.15 **Paula Abdul** 12.15 **Paula Abdul** 1.15 **Paula Abdul** 2.15 **Paula Abdul** 3.15 **Paula Abdul** 4.15 **Paula Abdul** 5.15 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APPEALING FOR A  
RULING ON WHAT  
IS FAIR IN SPORT

# SPORT

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 1993

WARNE'S FINALE  
LEADS AUSTRALIA  
TO SERIES WIN

## Cambridge unable to exert control at Twickenham

# Back-row trio pave way for Oxford

Oxford University ..... 20  
Cambridge University .... 8

By DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE University match continues to defy both the restrictive modern rugby ethos and tactical thinking: a crowd of 66,000 at Twickenham yesterday enjoyed both an exciting match and Oxford's assertive denial that the team that controls the lineout controls the destiny of the game.

Oxford were entirely deserving victors of the 12th match against Cambridge, the first time they have held the Bowring Bowl since 1990 and their 48th win in the series against 51 by Cambridge. Their back row dominated the match and gave them a level of control that the Light Blues, for all the efforts of Roy Bramley and Meadows, only looked likely to break once.

The turning point of a game in which Oxford were never headed came when Cambridge scored the try that took them to 12-8. The score permitted them to shake off the disappointment of three missed penalties by Tynan and consider the possibility of a win which had hitherto seemed out of sight when Joy was caught in front of his own posts under a howitzer from Kennedy, the stage was set.

But Kennedy's drop at goal hit a post and within minutes Oxford were at the North end. Rees dropped for goal on the run and was narrowly wide, but his third penalty gave his side the points.

Even more heart-breaking was Oxford's clinching try: to their credit they had put pressure on Kennedy throughout and now du Toit charged down the stand-off's kick and pursued the ball before racing over. It was the justification for his selection which had been in the balance even at the start of the match.

"I was pleased to have made that selection," Lion-Cachet, the winning captain, said. "It has been very difficult at Oxford this term because we had strength in depth and there were 22 players who might have won a Blue. Fanie was out of my books but he proved me right in the end."

Lion-Cachet revelled with his back-row colleagues, Aiken and Martin. These two effectively wrapped up any Cambridge effort to bring continuity to their game: primary possession was not a



Richardson, the Cambridge flanker, prepares to fall on the ball as he is pursued by determined members of the Oxford pack yesterday at Twickenham

Light Blue problem but retaining the ball was and towards the end Lion-Cachet admitted that he was content to concede penalties in order to retain his 12-point cushion.

At that stage Cambridge had to work for a try, but they must have been disappointed that their line start on a bright but crisp and windy day had earned them nothing. Not only could Tynan not land his kicking touch but the decisions of how and where to run the ball were going awry. Once Meadows, who had an

effective game at No 8, turned back to his forwards when there was space for his threequarters and Oxford emphasised their missed opportunities by snapping up their own.

Rees, the Canadian whose kicking beat Wales a month ago, clipped over a close-range penalty and Boyle snapped over a slightly-inflated dropped goal. Callow, Cambridge's captain, left briefly for repairs but returned as Kennedy dropped a goal of his own.

It was the signal only for the Cambridge line to come under siege: the lively Rayner made a hole and first Rees, then Henderson, went close. But Oxford had to be content with Rees's second dropped goal, long and low from 40 metres, to give them a half-time advantage of 9-3. Buoyed up by Tynan's inability to close the gap Rees powered through only to be gobbled up by the voracious Richardson and du Toit sustained the pressure.

Oxford ran the ball wide and were unfortunate not to be

awarded a penalty try when Arensen knocked down the final pass between Rayner and Joy. At 10 metres from the line a try certainly seemed likely, but Derek Bevan was having none of it. Rees had to be satisfied with the goal instead but, for the first time, Oxford appeared to relax slightly.

For once Cambridge found space and 'Flood' slipped through to provide Boyd with the try and then went off injured.

Rees remarkably missed the easiest goal of all, a penalty

from only 12 metres which hit a post and caused his captain some anguish.

SCORERS: Oxford University: Try: du Toit. Penalty goals: Rees (3). Dropped goals: Boyle, Rees. Cambridge University: Try: Boyd. Dropped goal: Kennedy.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: M T Joy (Marling and Kestel); R V White (Cyril), CS Bridgend and University; L S Boyle (Barnwood College and Kestel); E J Rayner (Dunrobin's and Oriel); T C S Weston (Paddy and St Edmund Hall); G L Rees (St Michael's University, St. Vancouver and Kestel); S F de Tol (Paul Ross Gymnasium, St. Michael's and Christ Church); B Pennington (St. Edmund's and Kestel); O S Henderson (Barnwood and Kestel); C J Clark (Marlborough and Kestel); C C Lion-Cachet (Pembroke and Kestel); J B de Davel (Westminster College and St. Catharine's); D R Evans (St. Michael's, Canterbury and St. Anne's); N P Martin (King Edwards, Birmingham and Kestel); A O Alton (Durban HS and Kestel).

## Olympic overhaul threatens to hit five sports

FROM DAVID MILLER  
IN LAUSANNE

THE Programme Commission of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) dropped a little bombshell on the table here yesterday that could become a big one: the proposed exclusion from future Games of five sports: boxing, cycling, equestrianism, modern pentathlon and synchronised swimming.

Last night, the IOC and those associated with the discussion were swearing themselves to secrecy, but the news has already, it seems, filtered widely across Europe.

Although it is by no means certain that the IOC full membership — which next meets in session at the Winter Games in Lillehammer in February — would approve such extreme alteration to the programme, or even that the executive board would recommend it wholesale, the shockwaves will ripple round the world of sport.

Sound reasons, of course, do exist for trimming the programme of the five sports that are, I understand, under threat, in order to introduce more popular, widespread or less expensive events. Boxing, for instance, has increasingly been viewed as questionable on several grounds.

Equestrianism is considered to be a relative elitist and minority sport as well as expensive for the competitors and the organising committee of each successive Games.

Modern pentathlon has long been a target, because of its complexity and the tiny number of international competitors, though many would regret its passing. It was devised by de Coubertin because it epitomises the best spirit of Olympic competition.

Few would complain, apart perhaps from the competitors, of the elimination of synchronised swimming. The oddity among the five, is cycling, a seemingly thriving and relatively inexpensive sport, though of course most of the competition, outside the Olympics, is on the roads.

There will of course be dismay within the ranks of the international and national federations of all those sports on this hit list, but I think that point of elimination is still at this stage some way off.

## Walton earns late victory

Oxford Under-21 ..... 10  
Cambridge Under-21 .... 12

By DAVID HANDS

CAMBRIDGE were three minutes away from a sad saga of missed opportunities when Tim Walton scored the try which, with Jonas Hurst's conversion, earned victory in the fifth under-21 University match at the Stoop Memorial Ground yesterday.

Had they relinquished their grip on the Bowring Plate they would have kicked themselves, having missed six attempts at goal after playing most of the attacking rugby.

Yet there was a delightful twist to the vital score: Cambridge forced a scrum 20 metres out and Dan Maslen limped away on what appeared to be a dummy run. It baffled the Oxford back row and Russell Earnshaw sent Walton through.

It had taken Oxford the first quarter to pass Cambridge's ten-metre line, by which time Hurst had crowned the light blues' early supremacy with a try. But John Sackrey kicked a 40-metre penalty to make the interval score 5-3 and the Oxford forwards reasserted themselves at the lineup. Richard Yeatsley took the direct route to goal and Ox-

ford's defensive organisation looked likely to carry the day — until the dying moments.

SCORERS: Oxford University Under-21: Try: Maslen. Conversion: Sackrey. Penalty goal: Sackrey. Cambridge University Under-21: Try: Walton. Conversion: Sackrey. Penalty goal: Sackrey. Cambridge University Under-21: Try: Walton. Conversion: Sackrey. Penalty goal: Sackrey.

## All Blacks may complain

THE rump of New Zealand's touring party reached Auckland yesterday still fulminating against accusations of dirty play made by Will Carling at the end of the tour of England and Scotland (David Hands writes).

Neil Gray, the All Blacks' manager, said that they are considering making a formal protest, and Laurie Mains, the coach, emphasised that an enjoyable tour had been marred only by "a few silly players opening their mouths too much".

Meanwhile, Va'aiga Tuigamala, the Auckland wing, has denied any further contact with British rugby

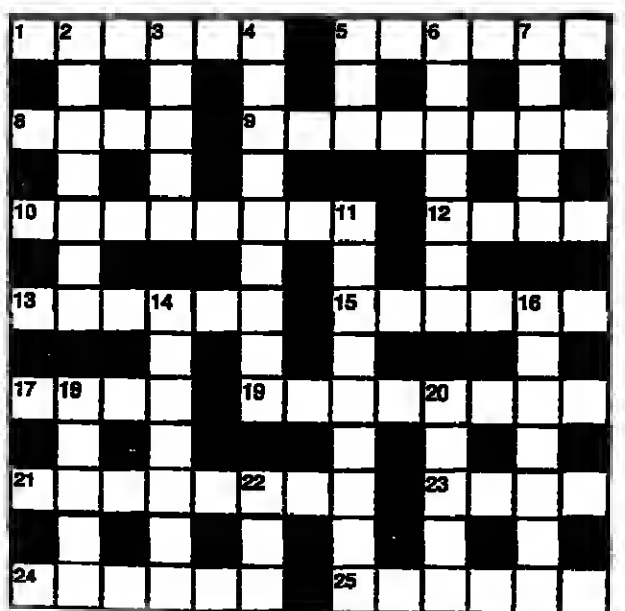
league clubs. Wigan made Tuigamala a handsome offer before the tour began.

Scott Gibbs, the Welsh centre injured playing for the Barbarians in Saturday's final tour match, underwent surgery yesterday on his damaged right knee. Repair work on the lateral ligaments may keep him out of rugby for as much as six months, although the latest medical opinion suggests he could be fit in time for Wales's World Cup qualifying matches against Portugal and Spain in May.

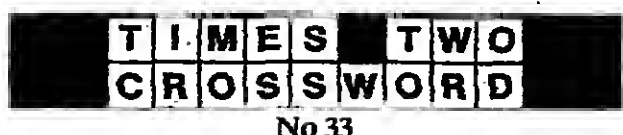
Nigel Redman, one of England's heroes in their win over the All Blacks, must also take an enforced rest for the

next month. The Bath lock broke a bone in his hand playing against Harlequins last weekend and will have an operation on Thursday to correct both that and a troublesome elbow condition.

Andy Moore, the former Oxford University scrum-half, will rest for three weeks after the eye-gouging incident during Cardiff's Heineken League win over Newbridge on Sunday. Moore said: "Something like this must never happen again and I hope there is an investigation." Alex Evans, Cardiff's coaching director, is studying video evidence of the match before contacting Newbridge.



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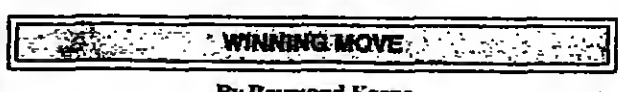


- ACROSS
- Sharp bend (3-3)
  - Temporarily uncultivated (6)
  - King of the Gods (4)
  - Uncommunicative (8)
  - Prediction (8)
  - Military stronghold (4)
  - Accompany (6)
  - Jungle strongman (6)
  - Professional cook (4)
  - Based on randomness (8)
  - Have one leg either side (8)
  - Bucket (4)
  - Grow feathers (6)
  - Clean engine of car (6)
- DOWN
- Burdensome (7)
  - Fine stocking cotton (5)
  - Rabelais' gluttonous giant (9)
  - Seizure (3)
  - Prince of Darkness (7)
  - One in possession... (5)
  - ...the document confirming his right (5,4)
  - Impolitely casual (7)
  - Troubled by plane motion (7)
  - Commercial lodging (5)
  - Subject, theme (5)
  - Mate of buck (3)

### SOLUTION TO NO 32

ACROSS: 1 Carry 4 Count 8 Almoner 9 Rabbi 10 Pulse 11 Asians 13 Omursh 15 Weapon 18 Milieu 20 Mouth 22 Helen 23 Banksia 24 Pasteur 25 Tense

DOWN: 1 Champion 2 Rambler 3 Yonge 4 Cereal 5 Upraise 6 Urban 7 Emir 12 Inchoate 14 Science 16 Pours on 17 Number 19 Idles 20 Monet 21 Ship



WINNING MOVE  
By Raymond Keene

This position is a variation from the game Kasparov - Short, Speed Chess Savvy Theatre 1993. Can you spot White's strongest continuation? The official book of The Times World Chess Championship is available at £7.99 from The Times, Raymond Keene Offer, PO Box 11, Tadcaster, N Yorks LS24 9XA.

Solution, page 38



WORD-WATCHING  
By Philip Howard

CONTRACTATION

- Bearing false witness
- Caressing furtively
- Formal forensic denial

SOTALER

- Pertaining to the underbelly
- A small ledge anchor
- To do with salvation

SPIGURNEL

- Puck at roller-skate hockey
- A king's sealer
- Wild clematis

Answers on page 38

Capturing the bouquet  
of a grape as it bursts.  
That's a winemaker's  
lifetime ambition.



WINE MAKER'S NOTES  
Exhibits natural apple, citrus fruit aromas and flavours of medium light intensity. Has a crisp, dry finish that's easily drinkable. Appropriate with mild cheeses, lamb, poultry, pork or veal.

Acidity 0.66g/100ml. Residual sugar: Dry 1.0g/100ml pH 3.35. Minimum 6 months in bottle before release.

THE WINES OF  
Ernest & Julio Gallo.